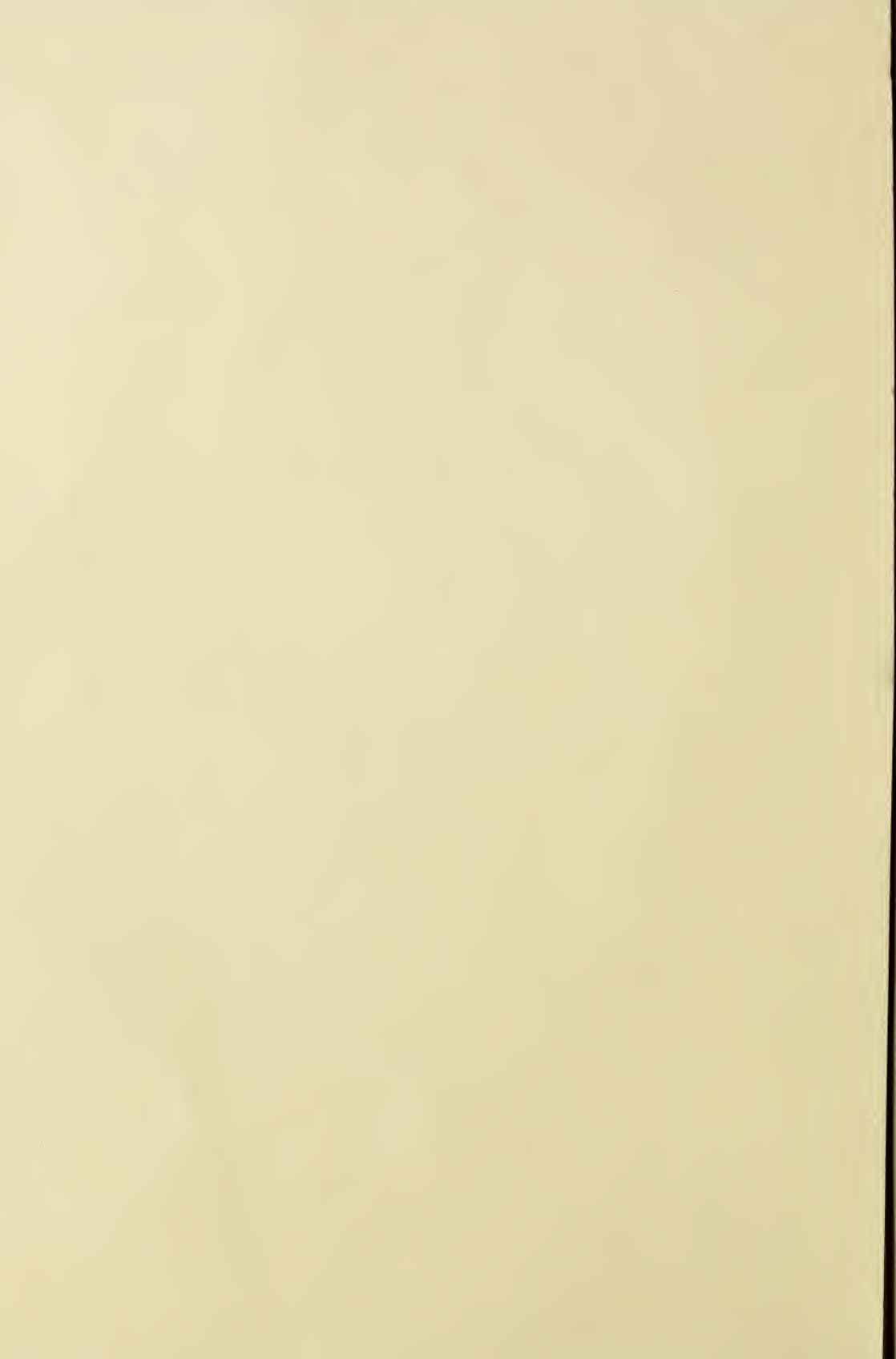


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THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Vol. XVIII.

BALTIMORE, MARCH, 1881.

No. 3.

Farm Work for March.

Every farmer must be wide awake this month, no time for talking but action is the word, if one desires to get along and be ahead in his work on the farm.

The oats have been properly sown, or if not, be sure and follow our suggestions last month, the earliest moment that the ground is in order for cultivation sow your oats and grass seeds.

CLOVER AND ORCHARD GRASS.

These grasses may be sown this month with almost certainty of success, if our views are carried out as explained last month.

POTATOES.

Those who grow potatoes for market should plant them as early as possible, or at least a large proportion of the crop should be planted now, so as to be in the market at the time when the early crop from the South has been exhausted, and before the winter supply from the North begins to glut the market. Early Rose is the best variety for early planting. It should be remembered that the *peach blow*, so popular with many growers for a late potatoe, requires stiff clayey soil—it never succeeds well in light, sandy ground. There are several new varieties very highly commended, and we would advise our potatoe growers to try small quantities of some two or more of the newer sorts. Nothing could be lost and much could be gained by such experiments,

TOBACCO.

In stripping tobacco, bear in mind what we have often said, keep it well assorted as to color, length of leaf and quality. Do not be in too much hurry to send it to market. Let it be thoroughly conditioned and have a sweet, nutty smell. Should it get damp or warm and begin to mould in the bulks, it will have a bad smell which can be removed by spreading it out in the sun. A bad smell ruins the price.

There is much ado made about a new variety of tobacco called "White Burley," and as it is commanding a very high price, compared with other tobaccos, and very strongly recommended by Mr. Killebrew, who has of late done so much toward the healthy progress of agriculture in Tennessee, and indeed in the whole country, it would be well for our planters in Maryland and other States to try a small quantity as an experiment. But we do not think it will succeed as a crop in all portions of the country as it would seem, from what we have read of it, to be confined to certain localities and soils. Like Cuba tobacco, it cannot be grown to perfection or with profit outside of the locality of which it is a habitat. It seems to require a peculiar soil and a very rich one, and grows quickly, furnishing a very light colored leaf, chaffy, and of light weight, but bringing a large price per pound, because it has become fashionable. We would commend the following closing remarks of Major R. L. Ragland of Virginia, who is a recognized authority on tobacco, in an article on this subject, ad-

dressed to the Religious Herald, Richmond, Va.

"You who have rich red clay lots on which you can raise a large, heavy, rich shipping type—such as you or your neighbor once raised—plant, not in Burley, but in some tried old shipping variety, and raise what will be surely wanted by somebody, and at a good paying price to you. Plant a few acres of the Burley just where you once raised that nice manufacturing, sweet, rich fillers or red wrappers—put all the stable manure on the red lot, and a compost of the barnyard, with some good fertilizer on the Burley lot; don't be stingy in manures or labor, and plant a small crop, and whether you succeed or not, you'll be better able to judge which will likely prove the more profitable variety to plant the year following. But in any event you have my very best wishes for your success."

Again, Major Ragland writes to the *Rural Register*, of Va.

"I would advise our planters to try it, but not to plant of this variety alone. Experiment slowly is the safer way."

HAULING OUT MANURE.

Clean up the barnyard and haul out the manure to the fields where it is to be spread at once and plaster sowed over it; or to such convenient places where it is to be composted with such materials as are most convenient at hand, that it may be well rotted and intermingled with such materials as turf, woods earth, and bones or mineral fertilizers, as may be wanted to secure proper plant food in time for the crops on which it is to be used later in the year. Especially prepare a sufficient compost heap for such roots as are to be sown, like beets, mangels, etc., in the latter part of April or first of May. The ground for such root crops should now be plowed deep and given a dressing of rotted stable or barnyard manure, to lie until it is time to prepare it for the seeds. Give it an occasional harrowing to destroy all weeds as they appear.

RENOVATING MEADOWS.

When a meadow is falling off in its yield of grass, it can be greatly improved by re-

sowing where needed, and broad-casting over each acre, five bushels of bone dust or (200 lbs. Kainit,) and four bushels of salt with one of plaster. Harrow well, and cross-harrow with a sharp, heavy harrow.

BARLEY.

Barley is a crop that for some reason unknown to us, has not been much cultivated in the Middle or Southern States, but is found in some States to be a profitable crop. Years ago, when it was not in such demand as now when breweries have so much multiplied in number and amount of production of malt liquors, we found it profitable, more so than oats or rye. We found it yielded more bushels per acre than rye, and sold for more per bushel. It is now in demand and meets a ready sale, at excellently paying prices. It requires a good soil in good heart, and well prepared. A deep, sandy or light soil suits it best. Sow two bushels to the acre, and as soon as the frost is out of the ground, say between the 20th of March and 10th of April, in this latitude. Sow, as oats are sown, plowed in shallow or well harrowed in. On clean, well prepared land it would be best to be put in with a drill. Any kind of grass seed can be sown with it and they usually succeed better with barley than with other small grain crops.

Garden Work for March.

This is the beginning month of the active energies of the gardener, and we make the following suggestions without further preface.

Hot-Beds.—It has become an absolute necessity to have a hot-bed in every garden, large or small. They are made now very cheaply, and as every seedsman's catalogue has a full description of the manner of making it, it is superfluous to enter into details either of how they should be constructed, managed, or of their great utility in aiding the gardener to bring forward

early vegetables. Next to the hot-bed, there is the cold frame for hardening plants grown in the hot-beds, and being transplanted therein, they get to be strong and stocky, with plenty of roots, so that from the cold frame they can be transferred to open ground with safety, at the proper season, and without receiving any violent check in growth. Hand glasses are also very important to the gardener for such vines and plants as are liable when young to be destroyed or much injured by flies. Therefore every gardener should have a supply of hand glasses, or hand frames, covered with fine wire or coarse gauze—These admit air and warmth, and exclude all pestiferous insects, until the plants are beyond danger from insect assaults.

Sowing Seeds in the Open Air.—Select a spot facing the south and well protected from cold winds, by a fence or other contrivance, and dress heavily with well rotted manure and a compost of ashes, bone dust and rich earth. Dig or spade it in, and commingle by chopping with the hoe and raking well the same, until it is well mixed and brought into fine tilth, then sow cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, pepper, radish and tomatoes. Rake in the seeds lightly and tramp them with the feet or a roller, so as to compress the earth well. It should be dry and in nice order, when the seeds are pressed by the feet. Keep the surface moist, and protect the young plants by a covering of leafy brush or straw matting when the weather is cold.

Peas, Beets, Salsify, Carrots, Parsnips, Onion Seeds.—Sow seeds of these in rich, well prepared ground as soon as the weather will permit.

Onion Sets.—Put these out toward the last of the month, in drills fourteen inches apart, and two or three inches apart in the drill. Let the soil be rich, light and well prepared. The onions should be barely set in the drills, not covered. Keep free of grass by frequent working with the scuffle hoe or rake.

Potatoes.—If not planted last month, plant as early in this month as possible, and follow our advice given for February.

Lettuce.—Set out lettuce plants in open ground, and see they have the best soil, frequent stirring of the ground, and do not suffer for want of moisture. Liquid manure poured about the roots is highly beneficial. This delightful vegetable requires a quick growth to head well and be crisp.

Asparagus.—If you have not a sufficient quantity of beds planted with the best, new varieties, be sure to set out more beds. you cannot have too much asparagus, as any surplus can always be sold for high prices, if it be tender and good. On the old beds, fork in well rotted manure, and then spread over each bed a heavy dressing of salt. Cover a bed designed for early use with six inches of fresh stable manure and straw on the top to keep up a steady heat.

Spinach.—The soil for spinach should be rich and deeply spaded. No use to try to raise this delicious vegetable on poor land. It is an epicurean dish, and is in itself, a gourmand that lives only on the fat of the land. Drop the seed thinly, in drills 14 inches apart and thin out the young plants to 4 inches apart. Cover them an inch deep. Sow every few weeks for crops to come in succession.

Celery.—To have celery early, the seed should have been sown in a hot-bed, and the plants pricked out into a warm border when they are about three inches high, covering them with brush or mats during frosty weather. In open air culture the celery seed should be scattered in drills as early as possible in the spring, in a well prepared bed. Cover with a thin covering of earth; prick the young plants out into a fresh bed when about three inches high, and when they have reached the height of six inches, transplant them to the trenches prepared for them.

Rhubarb or Pie Plant.—Sow early in the spring, in a seed bed, or, what is better,

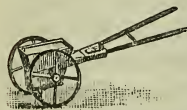
purchase the plants of a trustworthy nurseryman, and set them in soil well trenched, or in hills, three feet apart, enriched with half a bushel of well rotted manure. The second year from the planting of the roots, a moderate supply of stalks may be gathered, but care should be taken not to strip them too closely until the third year. Top off the plant as soon as it shows signs of running to seed.

Strawberries.—Clean off the strawberry beds and fork in a good supply of woods' mould mixed with a very small quantity of well rotted manure. After the plants have been thinned and hoed, lay straw between the rows to protect the fruit from beating rains. Water occasionally of an evening.

Gooseberries, Currants and Raspberries.—Trim these and fork in manure about the roots.

Implements for effectual Garden Work.

The spade of course, though the plow is better for turning up the ground. The Dutch or scuffle hoe is far preferable to the old weeding hoe, and the rake if used often, answers all the purposes of either hoe, in keeping down the weeds among vegetables and keeping the soil light. The rake thus used saves time, as twice the ground can be gone over in the same time that could be done with the hoe. The fork spade prepares the ground better than the ordinary spade, and is better for spreading manure. Every ordinary sized garden should have a seed sower or drill.



One of the best, most convenient, and the cheapest, is the one manufactured by Mr. Hallock, of which we give a cut, and also refer to the advertisement of it in this number of the FARMER.

A gardener recommends that to keep bugs off melon and squash vines, a tomato plant be set in each hill, saying that when he had followed this plan his young plants were not molested.

For the Maryland Farmer.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

INTERESTING TO FARMERS—EUROPEAN
AGRICULTURAL NEWS—ITEMS.

(Regular Correspondence.)

LONDON, England, Jan. 3, 1881.

The weather during the past week, up to Friday, has been rough and stormy, and the land is generally too wet for cultivation. The samples of English wheats offered in London and in provincial markets, have been very much out of condition, and the effect of the rains at the close of harvest on unthatched ricks is becoming more and more patent. A very large proportion of the English wheat crop has been injured in that way, and the market rates for damp samples are very low. The amount of old wheat now included in farmers' deliveries is very small, in fact, there is practically none. But where such is to be found the samples meet a ready sale, and new wheats in fine condition find buyers without difficulty. For the red, prices are low, and the supply of dry, foreign wheat makes the sale of all such inferior portion of the home-growth very difficult and unsatisfactory. When the large proportion of deliveries in more or less perfect condition is considered, the position of the home producer as a seller of wheat is a very serious one. The yield of the crop of 1880, is turning out to be smaller than the lowest published estimates, and the small deliveries at low prices make the money-return a small one for the English grower.

With few exceptions all foreign wheats are now to be purchased on the spot, and forwarded at easier rates than were obtained during the previous week. The quantity of breadstuffs on passage and for shipment is large, and all that the United States refuses to send, is gladly supplied from other sources. The "visible supply" of wheat in America is now rapidly increasing, and is now but little short of the greatest accumulation of last year. It is quite probable that there will be a large quantity of American flour sent here later on.

A considerable quantity of snow fell in North Germany, which, it is feared will do considerable damage to the coming crops, as they were not covered with the soil.

The rinderpest is making terrible rav-

ages in Russia, and the infected district is now within 60 kilometres of the frontier of East Russia. The import of all cattle, except horses, mules and donkeys, also the import of all animal produce, except milk, butter and cheese is strictly prohibited. Fresh fodder, straw, manure, hair-bristles, and clothes which have been worn are likewise prohibited articles, although the importation is allowed under certain conditions, and on application to the veterinary surgeon and commissioner of the frontier.

In England, agricultural prospects at the close of the year are good, so far as the condition of the young crop is concerned, for everything has come up well and looks strong and healthy. Prices for stores are still low, and the demand is very limited, but fat stock have sold well at the Christmas markets, which, in many instances have been but indifferently supplied with best quality beef and mutton. With regard to contagious diseases of animals, farmers' prospects are anything but good, for flockmasters have to deal with a wide-spread affection of the fluke parasite, which will be certain to cause very serious losses during the season. The floods of the past week and the mild temperature for the time of year, are both in favor of spreading the embryos of the parasite over otherwise sound ground, and the constant succession of floods since summer, following last year's accession of fluke disease has rendered the extensive spreading of the disease a certainty. Foot and mouth disease is by this time nearly all over the country, and the stock-breeders' interest is in great peril; in fact, it has received another check which will be felt for some time to come. So that the agricultural position at the close of 1880 is beset with difficulties, and the future anything but a bright one; whilst the opportunities for the English farmer to put money in his purse during the year have been few and far between.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Fish Culture—German Carp.

Messrs. Editors:—When I was at your office in August last, I promised to give you at some future date, an account of my success with the German Carp which I have been raising. Have waited till this time, thinking it would be better to ascertain the full amount of growth during one year, as they are said not to grow during cold wea-

ther. About the 1st of November, 1879, our very efficient Fish Commissioner, Col. Thos. Hughlett, called on me and stated that he understood I had an ice pond conveniently situated near my dwelling, which he felt sure from what he could learn was eminently adapted for the propagation of the German Carp. after an examination of the pond, he was thoroughly convinced that it was the place for the purpose. He advised me to construct the pond so that the water could be all drawn off at any time it might be advisable to do so. On the 19th of November, he sent me 80 of the young Carp, from one and a half to two inches in length. A cold snap having come upon us about that time, I was unable to complete the work upon the pond, so was obliged to keep them in the house in a large tub for one week, (till the 26th.) I supplied them with fresh spring water every day and lost but one during that time; on the 26th, I placed the 79 little fellows in the pond and saw nothing more of them until the latter part of February, 1880, when after letting much of the water off, I could see them in little shoals of 15 or 20 each, I could not perceive that they had grown a particle, I again lost sight of them until the early part of June, when to my surprise and delight, I caught one measuring eight inches in length, of this I informed Commissioner Hughlett, he came to look at them the first week in July; when we caught one 11 inches long. He came again in August, when we took out two, one 11½, the other 12 inches in length, and weighing 12¾ and 13¼ ounces respectively, these, at the suggestion of Commissioner Hughlett, we had broiled for breakfast, and those who partook of them pronounced them very nice, much superior to any other fresh water fish. On Saturday last, just one year from the time I received the fish, I invited several gentlemen, the Hon. J. T. Earle, among the number to partake of a taste of the Carp for breakfast. The day before we caught two and had them well corned, one measured 15½ inches and weighed 1 pound 14 ounces, the other measured 15¼ inches and weighed 1 pound 11 ounces; each of the gentlemen, five in number, pronounced them equal to most—and superior to many of our salt water fish. They are all fish eaters, and one of them is said to have eaten, at one sitting, his length of Rock fish. According to statements from those who know the habits of the Carp, I expect my fish to spawn next Spring, when

I suppose there will be thousands of young.

For the benefit of those who may wish to embark in fish culture, I will explain my method of constructing a pond so as to draw all the water off at will, though doubtless there are other ways equally as good, if not better.

First, open the dam at the deepest point so as to let all the water out, then make a trunk of two inch plank, (white oak is best.) My pond covers half an acre, with five feet of water at the dam; I can let all the water off in one hour and a half, through a trunk one foot square on the inside, and 24 feet long,—it must pass entirely through the dam, place the upper end tightly in a box, say 2 feet square and 2 feet deep, with the top open, this is done to keep the mud from getting in the mouth of the trunk. Put galvanized wire, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch mesh, on the end in the box, 18 inches from the box, place an iron gate made of boiler iron, 16 by 18 inches, riveted to a rod of $1\frac{1}{2}$ by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch iron, with $\frac{1}{2}$ inch holes 6 inches apart to hoist by, length to suit depth of pond, this gate is let into grooves through the top and down the inner sides of the trunk, and is supported by upright pieces of timber made fast to the out sides of the trunk with a brace across the top through which the iron rod passes; this brace should be at least one foot above the water when the pond is full. There should also be a trough over the top of the dam for the surplus water; this should also be guarded with wire. My pond is filled by never failing springs, so that there is a constant waste from it. It is not necessary to let off the water at any particular time, but it might be very convenient to do so during a freshet, or to catch the young fish. A pond such as I have described, can be built, I think, for \$15.00 or \$20.00, at most. Hoping I have been explicit enough,

I am very truly, &c.

Readborn, Jan. 1880. R. HOLLYDAY.

P. S.—I neglected to mention that I fed the Carp almost daily during the summer, on clabber, or slops that were intended for the hogs, and once a week I got a bucket of blood from the butcher. They seemed to enjoy the clabber and would devour it in a very short time after placing it in the water, always fed them at the same spot and about the same time of day.

[The above admirable letter from Mr. H. was written at our earnest solicitation, as

his modesty made him hesitate to give his experience on fish culture, which is now so attractive and important to our farmers. This diffidence to appear in public, on the part of our friends, often causes the suppression of valuable information that would lead to the easy acquisition of comfort, if not of wealth, to many who are so circumstanced as to take advantage of such information. Many who have ponds or places suitable to form ponds on their farms, will read the above with pleasure and profit, and no doubt follow the example of our friend Hollyday. More on this important subject we hope to offer before long.—EDS.]

History of the Maryland Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

CHAPTER XXVII.

The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Baltimore, on the 5th of June, 1860.

The President made a report from the committee appointed to receive the monies donated by the State, with the vouchers for the disbursement thereof, and asked for the appointment of a committee to examine the accounts—the report was accepted, and Messrs. Mulliken, Dennis and Lowndes were appointed the committee.

Mr. Sands, Treasurer, presented a statement of receipts and expenditures since last report, which was referred to above committee, who subsequently reported the accounts as correct,—that there was in the hands of the committee the sum of \$565.25, and that there was also in the hands of the Treasurer, the sum of \$11.84.

The President stated to the committee that sundry claims against the Society had been presented, after the date specified in the advertisement which had been published in the daily and agricultural papers of this city—that in addition to the balance on hand of the fund received from the State, the amount of a note given and since found by the late Treasurer, had increased the sum on hand to \$565.25, as before reported. He asked for further instructions to the committee.

On motion of Mr. Worthington, it was

ordered that the committee proceed to the payment of the claims since presented, in the same manner as those which had been already presented and paid, to the extent of the amount of funds in their hands.

The President called up the subject of the location for the next Cattle Show, and made a statement in regard to the action of the committee appointed upon the subject. On motion, the committee was continued, and directed to report at an adjourned meeting, which was subsequently fixed for the 19th inst. Mr. McHenry asked to be excused from serving on the committee, which was granted, and Mr. F. Cooke appointed in his place.

Mr. Merryman, President, called attention to the subject of the cattle disease now ravaging Massachusetts, and which was making progress southward—the disease having made its appearance in New Jersey, through the instrumentality of cattle introduced into that State from the infected districts at the East.

Mr. McHenry offered the following, which was unanimously concurred in.

Whereas, The disease known as Pleuro-Pneumonia, which has proved so fatal in Massachusetts, is reported to have recently spread to other States, and is believed to have been introduced into healthy districts by animals brought from infected districts,

Resolved, That this committee earnestly recommend that no bull, cow, ox or calf be introduced into this State, from any State north or east of Maryland, whilst the Pleuro-Pneumonia is known to exist in that portion of the country.

The premium list for the next Annual Cattle Show was then considered. During the consideration of the same, Mr. McHenry offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the competition for Premiums at the next show of this Society shall not be open for competition to animals from any section of the country known to be visited by the Pleuro-Pneumonia.

Mr. Bowie offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

In view of the conflicting accounts of the growing wheat crop of this and adjoining States,

Resolved, That the Vice-Presidents of this Society from the different counties, be

requested to forward to Samuel Sands, Secretary of the Society, accurate reports of the prospect of the crop, after it shall have been threshed in their respective counties, and that said reports be published as soon as received in the *Rural Register and American Farmer*, in order to act advisedly when their grain shall be ready for market.

After further routine business, the meeting adjourned to the 19th inst.

At the meeting on the 19th June, 1860, the President, from the committee to whom was referred the subject of the Show Grounds, at Canton, reported that they had not yet been able to make any definite arrangement.

On motion of Mr. Mulliken, the committee was allowed further time, and were authorised to act in the premises—and that, if no satisfactory arrangement could be made in time, the next Exhibition should be held on the present Show Grounds, on North Charles Street.

On motion of Mr. Worthington, the time for holding the Fall Exhibition was fixed for Tuesday, the 30th October, to continue four days.

The meeting then adjourned to the 4th of September.

On that day, the President, Mr. Merryman presented a statement as to the progress made in the negotiations for the proposed grounds at Canton, the cost of fitting up the same, and also the probable cost of repairing the old grounds for the next exhibition—when

Mr. McHenry offered a resolution that the next exhibition be held at the old grounds of the Society, on Charles Street Avenue, and that a sum not exceeding \$1000 be appropriated for the fitting up of the premises—which was concurred in.

After considerable routine business was transacted, a communication having been received from the Canton Company, in relation to the grounds at Canton, Mr. Oden Bowie moved a reconsideration of the resolution to hold the next show at the Charles Street Grounds—which was concurred in.

Mr. Bowie then moved that if the sum of \$2000 be subscribed by the citizens of Baltimore, to aid in fitting up the contemplated Show Grounds at Canton, on the terms herein specified, that the President be authorized to accept the offer made to the Society by the owners thereof—provi-

ded the Trustees of the Charles Street Grounds grant permission, in accordance with the consent of the stockholders thereof first had and obtained, to remove the fencing and fixtures to the new location. In order to raise the above mentioned sum of \$2000, it is proposed to issue membership tickets for five years, to persons subscribing ten dollars—or for two years, to those subscribing five dollars. The motion was adopted and the committee then adjourned.

But this arrangement was not carried out for various reasons, chiefly because the stockholders refused consent to the removal of the materials from the old grounds.

The Society then determined to hold its next Annual Fair on the old grounds of the Society, on Charles street.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Farmers Club.

The term used above implies something of a different character from the extensive meetings of farmers that are held under the name of Conventions, Boards of Agriculture, etc. It has always been believed that improvement in knowledge, social intercourse, etc., was a legitimate result of association. The man who shuts himself away from the world and its associations, becomes dwarfed in mind, unless he studies continually, and even then, he will understand but little of those principles that govern in all good society, and go to make a man respect not only himself and his own opinions, but the opinions of others. It was a wise thought that found expression in the sentence, "It is not good for man to live alone." There should always be a desire for the enlargement of the mind, and means that are proper should be used to secure that end.

There is but little danger of over action in that direction. Now, it has often been said, and with a good deal of truth too, that farmers are so situated that the tendency is to lead to a somewhat secluded life. This may be for various reasons; in the first place financial circumstances may require

continuous labor upon the farm, which would cut off opportunity to call upon and visit neighbors as inclination would naturally prompt to.

And again, the character of the occupation requires that the laboring farmer should appear each day in a dress that would hardly be presentable in high toned society, and so a variety of circumstances combine to keep the farmer at home, where, if his inclinations aid in the least, he is likely to look upon the dark side of life. A case could be cited of a hard working man whose residence was somewhat isolated, and though having a pleasant home, his life was partially cut off from society, which so operated upon him that he committed suicide by drowning.

Now such a condition of things should be avoided, and to aid in this, is the province of the farmers club. The benefits that may accrue to farmers in the direct line of their business, from an interchange of ideas and a discussion of modes of practice and results are incalculable. No case has yet been heard of a farmer that knew so much about his business that he could learn nothing more. There are those however, who are so excessively egotistical that they imagine that if they do not know it all, they can learn nothing at a farmers club.

This is entirely erroneous, but even if it was so, they are under a moral obligation to assist and instruct their less informed brethren.

But the benefits are more extended than the simple improvement in agricultural knowledge, merely being associated together engenders a more friendly feeling, and each learns to see himself more as others see him; a higher regard is had for the rights of others, each is indirectly supporting the other, and there is created a mutual sympathy more strongly expressed than where no association exists, and so the trials and sorrows of life appear to be shared by others, and so the burdens seem

to be much lighter and so more easily borne. Are not these reasons sufficient for the formation of farmers clubs much more generally than they are at present? Would it not more nearly bring farmers to the condition, in which they would be fully filling the design of existence; that of having made the world some better for having lived in it.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

The Hay Crop.

The best paying crop the farmer can raise is hay; this, as a general rule. A good grass farm admits of much and good stock, hence a large amount of manure and good crops of grain, corn and potatoes. It is an oft repeated maxim that the farmer had better buy than sell hay, meaning that selling hay from the farm impoverishes it. So it does, and in selling grain and potatoes, twice as rapidly. As a general rule, it is better to sell hay than to use it upon the farm and then sell the crop it nourishes. One of the paying crops this year is hay, especially for the farmers living near the city. The demand for hay in our cities and the substitution of dairying and stock raising for other branches of farming in the best hay producing localities, has caused hay to maintain a higher proportionate price than many other farm products. Hence, hay is the best crop farmers can raise under any circumstances, and more especially when the situation favors him, as near a market and good grass land. In choosing a farm, one of the chief requisites should be a portion adapted to the growing of a good quality of hay, without the liability of soon "running out" and involving the necessity of re-seeding every few years. A permanent meadow on a farm is a mine of wealth that will pay better dividends than some that purport to yield the precious metals. Much grass land that is not especially moist, but dry enough to grow, when plowed, good crops of corn and grass may be made to yield increasing crops for a term of years by top dressing. Experiments have shown that none of our chief farm crops make better return for the use of concentrated commercial fertilizers than hay. Of these, nitrate of soda is among

the best, as it has been found that on application to grass land, it usually much more than repays its cost. The tendency of salt is downward and enriches the ground deeply, causing the grass to withstand the drought. Chloride of sodium or common salt, plaster, ashes, bone dust, etc., can be used with profit, if judiciously. Top dressing grass lands with stable manure is being practiced by many farmers and with good results, but it is a mistake to apply coarse manure in the spring to your lands. We lately saw a field that had just been mowed and raked with a horse-rake, where a top dressing of green manure had been applied in the spring; there was considerable straw with the manure, and the manure withal, was somewhat limpy from not being sufficiently decomposed, and the consequence was, a large part of the manure and straw was disturbed by the rake teeth and mingled with the hay. The effects of the manure upon the growth of the grass was very apparent, and had the manure been allowed to lay in the heap until fall, and the rapid decomposition prevented by forking over occasionally, the disagreeable result of mixing the manure with the hay would have been avoided. An adjoining field, upon which the latter method was practiced gave very favorable results. Another farmer I know of, has used most of his manure for several years upon his grass land, cultivating but a small area in grain, and getting his revenue from stock and hay; his testimony is that his farm has increased in productiveness and pays better than before.—*Cor. Lewiston Journal.*

Farm Life.

BY JOHN DIMON.

To the Maryland Farmer greeting:

When I affirm that most of our greatest and best men of all ages were either born on the farm or spent a large portion of their boyhood days there, I lay myself open to criticism, but nevertheless I make the assertion, beginning with our common ancestor, Adam, and coming down through all ages to the present time. Many of the most noted generals, statesmen and rulers of both ancient and modern times were country-bays, and many of them were reared on the

farm, and what is more, return to it again after years of turmoil and strife in the military or political career of their lives. And if we can believe their statements, the happiest part of their lives, by far, was there enjoyed. We have not room in this to individualize, but will mention just a few names of this class of individuals of modern times who were farmers boys, bred and born on the farm, and who always, through the most palmy days of their lives gave much thought to the farm and how it should be successfully improved. We will first speak of the man whom providence left childless that his country might call him 'Father,' our own immortal Washington; born on a Virginia farm and who after leading the American armies to victory, and serving the American people in the highest office within their gift for eight years, bade them and politics a long and last farewell and settled down at farming on Mount Vernon. Then comes Kentucky's Idol, Henry Clay, "The Mill Boy of the Slashes," for such in early life he was called, from the fact of his birthplace being in that part of Hanover county, Va., called the "Slashes of Hanover," on the road between Washington and Richmond—and that when the meal barrel of his poor, widowed mother got low, he used to be sent to Mrs. Danicott's Mill on the Pamunky river, mounted on a bag thrown across a pony that he guided by a rope bridle, and thus becoming familiarly known by the people living on the line of his travel, by the above soubriquet, which clung to him through life. In after years, when he had become possessed of the beautiful estate of "Ashland," near Lexington, Ky., containing 600 acres of the finest land in America, or the world, he prided himself as much on his good farming and fine stock, as on his statesmanship or legal profession, of which he stood at the head.

Our own great New England lawyer and statesman, Daniel Webster, was born and bred on a farm, in the hills of New Hampshire, where he lived and toiled as a farmer's

boy until fourteen years of age, when he was sent off to school, in order as his elder brother said, that he might know as much as the others. After 40 years of judicial and political life, in which he arrived to that distinction so rarely achieved by man, we find him the proprietor of a large farm in the old Bay State, "Marshfield," where he took as much pride in his farm crops and fine stock, as perhaps any farmer or breeder of the present day, and where he was wont to repair to rest his fevered brain and drown his political disappointments. It is said that, while in the United States Congress, he had the management of this farm so much at heart, that he used to write to his foreman, John Taylor, almost every day, giving explicit directions for its management, and the breeding and care of its stock. Farm life gives us food, and food for thought. Brain work, and that of the clearest kind, comes into profitable play quite as well on the farm as anywhere else. To my mind there is no place equal to the farm, on which to raise a family of children. They can there have the freedom of action not to be obtained in the town or city, and which are necessary for the full development of both body and mind. For without a well developed and healthy body, can we expect to find a strong and healthy mind?

Children reared on the farm are much less exposed to evil influences than those congregated in towns or cities, and stand much the best chance to become people of note, both as to physical, mental and moral ability.

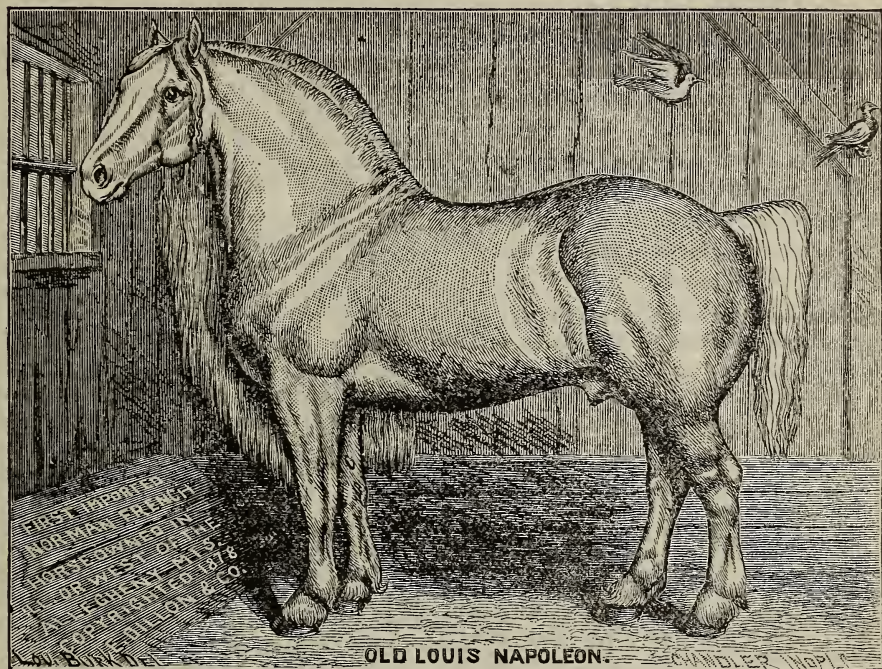
Farm life has the advantage over most other pursuits, of giving its possessor the long, winter evenings quietly to himself, which, if profitably improved, will give in a long run, any one of ordinary ability a good education.

DIMON STOCK FARM.

Jan. 14, 1881.

Cows and cattle at pasture need more salt than on dry hay.

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.



Old Louis Napoleon was imported from France, in 1851, by Fullington & Martin, of Union county, Ohio, and sold to A. P. Cushman, of DeWitt county, Ill. He was purchased by Dillon & Co., Bloomington, Ill., of A. P. Cushman, and owned by them until his death, August 3, 1871. Old Louis Napoleon was a dark, dapple gray, when young, but snow white at the time of his death. He stood 16 hands high, and weighed, usually, 1,650 pounds; weighed at one time 1,825 pounds.

Old Louis Napoleon was the first imported Norman stallion ever brought to Illinois, and proved to be one of the most remarkable breeders ever imported into the United States. He was the sire of over four hundred successful stallions. The value that he has been to this country can hardly be estimated. His success as a breeder, has been the direct cause of the many importations of Norman horses to this country. Had he never been imported, the probability is, that there would not now be a full-blood Norman in the western country.

The following article appeared in the *Prairie Farmer*, August 26, 1871:

"The imported Norman stallion, Old Louis Napoleon, is dead. He was apparently in good health, on Saturday evening, August 12th; but on the following morning was found dead in his stall. He appeared to have suffered but little, as he was lying in his bed of straw, just as though he had gone to sleep, and died without a struggle. The old hero is dead, but his name will live in the pages of history, long after this generation has passed away. Our great grand-children's children will trace the pedigrees of their horses back to Old Louis Napoleon, and it will be said of him, that 'he was the champion of the draft ring, and father of the greatest family of horses in the world.'"

Sheep Husbandry.

BY PROFESSOR KILLEBREW.

The elaborate and satisfactory book on Sheep Husbandry, prepared by J. B. Killebrew, A. M., Ph. D., for the farmers of Tennessee, is full of excellent knowledge for sheep growers and farmers. We wish we could give the whole essay to our readers, but as that can not be done, we do the best we can, by giving from time to time, copious extracts. Under the head of *Winter Food*, he gives the following tables :

The relative value of the different kinds of Food, as to the Amount of Nutrition each contains,

In 100 parts of	Water.	Ash.	Organic matter.	Flesh formers.	Fat starch gum.	Cru. fibre.
Meadow hay....	14.3	6.2	79.5	8.2	41.3	3.0
Red clover hay....	16.7	6.2	77.1	13.4	29.9	35.8
Pea straw.....	14.3	4.0	81.7	6.5	35.2	4.0
Bean straw....	17.3	5.0	77.7	10.2	33.5	34.0
Wheat straw....	14.3	5.5	80.0	2.0	3.2	48.0
Rye straw.....	14.2	3.2	82.5	1.5	27.0	54.0
Barley straw....	14.3	7.0	78.7	3.0	32.7	43.0
Oat straw.....	14.3	5.0	80.7	2.5	38.2	40.0
Corn fodder....	14.0	4.0	82.0	3.0	39.9	40.0

These analyses are taken from the hay cut in the blossom. If allowed to get fully ripe, the crude fibre is largely increased, and a corresponding depreciation of the fat and flesh-forming principle ensues.

Comparative value as to nutrition of the same materials in 100 parts, taking English or meadow hay as a basis.

Meadow or English hay.....	10.0
Clover hay.....	12.5
Pea straw.....	16.5
Bean straw.....	18.0
Wheat straw.....	2.0
Rye straw.....	1.6
Barley straw.....	2.0
Oat straw.....	1.8
Corn fodder.....	2.5

Now, in order to produce the same nutrition in an animal, that ten pounds of meadow hay would give, there will have to be fed of

Clover hay.....	8 pounds.
Pea straw.....	6 "
Bean straw.....	5½ "
Wheat straw.....	52 "
Rye straw.....	61 "
Barley straw.....	52 "
Oat straw.....	55 "
Corn fodder.....	40 "

Some allowances will have to be made for the various kinds of straw and hay, as much, indeed a large part, depends on the time of cutting, manner of curing and storing; the same hay or straw, under different circumstances, presenting very different nutritive effects. It will be a difficult matter to persuade our Tennessee farmers, that corn fodder is four times less valuable than hay, as many of us believe it is almost equal, and many, that it is superior to any kind of hay. These analyses are from Professor Way, and he frankly admits that the fodder is estimated. We think his estimate is below its value, from the fact that this roughness has always heretofore, and still is, largely relied on to the exclusion of all others.

It however becomes very apparent, from the insight given by these tables, that our usual method of depending on a pile of straw to feed cattle or sheep, is a very precarious way of keeping them in order, or even alive. It is true the straws have a value, but just think for one moment of the amount of straw that must enter a sheep's stomach to enable it to live. It would not be impossible for a sheep to consume ten pounds of hay in a day, and yet to procure the same amount of nutrition, that sheep must eat of wheat straw, 52 pounds, of rye straw, 61 pounds, and of oat straw 55 pounds. It is very evident from this tabulation that, if they had no other food they would starve to death. With the addition of grain, or some other of the more concentrated forms of food, they can do very well, with a constant access to the straw pile.

Our Northern brethren have long since adopted a system of raising quantities of roots, adequate to the necessities of the flock. This has so long been practiced by our English cousins, that no farmer thinks of encountering a winter, without a supply of roots in his cellar. It is proper we should imitate these customs, that are amply proved to be beneficial, not only in affording food, but in keeping the flocks in a good state of health.

If any one desires a plant which will bloom through the winter, with no cessation, nothing will give greater satisfaction than a double pink petunia.

Oxfordshire Downs.

The Oxfordshire Down is a modern breed developed in the vicinity of Oxford, England. The aim of a few breeders was to combine in one sheep, the good quality of the Downs with the large size of the long wool breeds. In a fair degree this aim has been accomplished, and the breed is now well established and popular in England, and has been somewhat introduced in this country.

The Cotswold and Hampshire Down were the breeds chiefly used in forming the breed, although South-down crosses have doubtless been used in some cases. They resemble the Downs more than the Cotswolds. The face and legs are dark, the wool rather short, but with a good weight of fleece; the carcass well formed and the mutton of good quality. They are considerably larger than the Downs and fairly approach some of the long wool breeds in size.

The leading English breeders of the Oxford Downs have given their sheep excellent care, and it is not one well calculated for "roughing life." They have not yet been sufficiently tested in this country to enable one to speak very partially of their adaptation to the wants of American farmers.—*Farmer's Review*.

Shropshire Downs.

The best authorities give as the foundation of the Shropshire, a sheep known as the Morfe Common—"a native breed, black faced or brown, or a spotted face, horned sheep, little subject to either rot or scab." Upon these were crossed Cotswolds, Leicesters, or Southdowns, according to the taste of the breeder. MR. J. MEIRE, who is credited with being among the prominent improvers upon the original type, is quoted as stating that both Southdowns and Leicesters were employed for crosses, the one producing a sheep adapted for grazing—"the Downs,"—the other, a heavier animal, adapted for inclosed pasturage. "This crossing and re-crossing, at length, gave place to the practice of careful selection, and thus uniformity was sought for and attained." MR. SPOONER says they were brought into national repute in 1845. *National Live Stock Journal, Chicago*.

THE DAIRY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Winter Dairying.

NUMBER FOUR.

In setting the milk for winter butter, care must be taken to keep it from the contamination of smells and odors, for if artificial heat is used to keep the milk at the right temperature, it will only add another agency towards assisting the milk to absorb impurities and the like, and hence a milk room off from the cook room is very objectionable, and is one reason why the modern creamery is ranked so high, for they completely shut out foreign influences, and keep the milk in its perfect state. If open pans are used, the cream may be made firmer, by slightly warming the milk before setting away, but not enough to scald it, for if the heat is sufficient to rupture the butter globules, the effect will be to make a flat, insipid tasting butter. The length of time in which the milk should be left will vary somewhat upon the condition of things, but should never be left long enough to develop the bitter flavor that winter milk will assume by standing. If the room is kept at 60° (48) hours will suffice, and the cream should be taken off as free from milk as possible, for the winter's milk contains a larger per cent. of caseine than in summer, and being nearly, and often quite insoluble, has its effect upon the butter. The theory that winter cream should contain a liberal quantity of milk, so as to "thin it out," so as to readily churn, is not a good one, and if any "thinning out" is needed, it can be better done with a small quantity of pure, warm water. If a creamery is used, the cream in ascending, will take a larger quantity of milk with it than when set in open pans, so that the thick cream of the former will be apt to deceive the maker, and when churned he will be somewhat surprised to find that the yield of butter, over that of the open setting, has not been increased, and that the real bene-

fit came from the better method of caring and handling of the milk.

When the cream has been removed there are two ways of treating it; one, to let it stand until a slight acidity has manifested itself, and then to slowly heat it up to 73° , without stirring, and allow the "bitter water," as it is called, to settle to the bottom, and then separate it from the cream. The other, is to occasionally stir the cream thoroughly, a couple of times per day, until ready for the churn, thus incorporating the different elements of the cream. It will not pay the butter maker unless he has some customers of his own, upon whom he can depend to take his butter, to try the sweet cream butter, for it is a very particular butter to make, and its market price is not quoted above the sour cream butter in the general market.

The churning of winter butter should be frequent, for long standing has many very deleterious effects, such as forming white specks in the butter, swelling of the cream in churning, besides the standing of the cream develops a low fermentation, transforming the milk sugar to alcohol and several of the acids, a result that tends to repel the butter globules from each other, and makes the labor of churning a prolonged effort—and not unfrequently unsuccessful.

For winter churning, the revolving churns have many points of superiority over the dash and float churns, for the butter globules having a thicker envelope, and to use a "country expression" slippery, the dash makes but little impression, and the friction necessary to bring the butter is accomplished very slowly, and besides swelling of the cream is impossible with these, as the air is completely shut out, which is its sole cause.

When the cream has begun to show signs of separation, the introduction of a gallon of strong brine to aid in the work of gathering and separating the butter from caseous matter, will be found of the great-

est benefit. Butter never should be only about half gathered in the churn, at which point all of the brine and buttermilk should be drawn off and another fresh brine introduced, in which the butter should be allowed to stand an hour and then taken off without further working; when drained, the salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to the pound, should be added, and the working in of the salt will be sufficient working until the final working, and packing for the market. One of the most damaging things is overworking of butter, for the breaking down of the grain makes the product salvy, greasy in appearance, and though it may have a good flavor, it can never be ranked as No. 1, from the fact that it does not have a decided granulated texture. Butter should be worked and packed so as to exclude it from the air, within 24 hours from churning, and should be either placed in well glazed crocks, or white oak or ash packages, which have been well soaked in brine. JOHN GOULD. Western Reserve, O., Feb. 1881.

Winter Feeding in the Dairy.

The winter dairyman has an excellent opportunity to study the art of flavoring foods. The cow enjoys great pleasure in eating, and her tastes should be studied and gratified, for by this attention shall the dairyman be rewarded. The cow can only digest a certain amount of bulky food, and not enough to produce the most remunerative yield of milk, whilst she may, in addition to this, digest and assimilate as much more in a more concentrated form, and this latter will all go to profit. In feeding grain or by-products of grain, give a variety, as this will not add to the flavor of milk, but will make it more palatable to the cows. Corn meal may properly always form part of the grain ration, say one-fourth to one-third. Bran is usually somewhat cheaper than corn meal, and contains more of nitrogenous matter, which goes to the formation of casein in milk; and one to two pounds of oil meal (from linseed or cottonseed) should be added to the ration, as this also furnishes both oil and nitrogen.

A ration made up of these three will be very palatable, and give cows a vigorous

appetite. It will be quite as well for the feeder to add about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of salt to this grain ration. Let the grain ration always be fed upon cut hay; or if the feeder has no cutting machine, place a thin layer of hay in bottom of the manger and spread the grain ration upon the hay. The cow will then eat some the hay with the grain, and this will cause the grain to be raised and re-masticated.—*National Live Stock Journal, Chicago.*

To what age will Cows Breed.

Prof. Fleming says that cows have been known to breed after they were twenty years old; but the most remarkable case that we are now able to recall, is that of the Short-horn cow, Cherry, by Waterloo, (2816) bred by Mr. John Stephenson, of Wolviston, Eng. This cow was calved Dec. 20, 1821, dropped her first calf January 16, 1825, and continued to breed regularly every year, up to Feb., 1840, when she dropped her 16th calf, then being in her 19th year. Another very remarkable case was that of Red Rose, by Windsor, (698). This cow was calved in 1812, and produced 16 calves, the last birth being twin heifers, dropped when she was 16 years old. There are several instances on record of cows breeding up to the 15th, 16th and 17th year, but these are, of course, exceptional, the great majority of cows ceasing to breed, before they are twelve years old. *National Live Stock Journal, Chicago.*

Milking Stools.

It is not a neat or good practice to try to milk without a stool, and at the same time hold the pail from resting on the ground. A piece of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch plank or slab, with three legs, six or eight inches long, will make one. The plank should be about 20 inches long, 6 or 7 inches wide at one end, and a little narrower at the other. Into the wider ends insert two legs about 8 inches long, boring the holes in the plank a little slanting, so that the legs spread a little at the bottom to keep steady. In the other end insert a leg 6 inches long, boring so that this leg will stand perpendicular. Across this end nail a cleat one-half inch thick, to prevent the pail from slipping off, and you are provided with a nice stool on which you can sit, and at the same time it will hold the pail for you.—*W. H. W., in Country Gentleman.*

Barbed Wire Fences.

Within a few months several contributions have appeared in your columns on barbed wire fences; some of the opinions advanced, appearing to be somewhat more sentimental than sound. That an efficient and economical material for taking the place of rail and board fences, which have long been inefficient, is required, cannot, I think, be reasonably denied.

Neither the length nor the sharpness of wire barbs is near as great as that of osage thorns, scores of miles of which fence are found in southern Michigan, and far more than that, north-west from Chicago. The barbs are not as sharp or as long as the thorns of the old white-thorn hedge plant, which has been in use as the hedge, par excellence, for centuries perhaps, in England, and for a long time in parts of New York. If it be said that live hedges give way, when horses or cattle rub against them, the ready answer is, that fences are not built for rubbing against, and the peculiar excellence and great advantage of barbed wire, when well strained is, that animals do not rub against it, at least not many of them a second time, because it does not give way or recede before pressure. If barbed wire fence encouraged rubbing by receding or giving away, it would be good for little or nothing to fence stock, particularly cattle, the inefficiency of board fence and rail fence arising from the fact that, however strong and expensive they may be, they give way when pushed or rubbed. Such fences bear rubbing without damage to stock, it is true, but such rubbing is at the cost of great injury to the fences, and much loss to the owners.

There are two points on which some correspondent seems not to have thought, or not to have shown it if they really thought of them.

1. That the sight power of horses and cattle is much stronger and more acute than human sight; that they can see objects of a given size or fineness (like wire) in much less light than we can, and at much greater distances. It does not follow, therefore, because we cannot perceive the wires in a fence, in a dim light, or at a distance of forty rods, that cattle or horses are equally weak in their powers of vision or observation. On the contrary I believe, from what I have seen, that horses and cattle in general, can see a wire fence at two or three

times greater distance than their owners could recognize the same, either in the day time or in the night time.

2. Like other creatures who think very little, though some of them have excellent memories, cattle and horses need some little training, from which to derive nerve sensations or brain impressions, which, being sufficiently repeated, form memory power. How, indeed, can a steer or colt form an idea as to the piercing nature of a barb, unless they rub, or run, or swing against some of the barbs?

If cattle get hurt less because they are slower motioned or have thicker hides, still it is necessary that the cattle be hurt a little to cultivate their memory power. It is certain that no fence that does not hurt them will deter cattle from rubbing against it. Barbed wire makes the best possible cattle fence extant then, because it hurts just enough to prevent the destruction of the fence, without materially injuring the cattle; and if they move much faster and incur greater danger from their greater speed, that is not the fault of the fence, but the fault of the owner in not cultivating the nerve or feeling power enough to establish memory in the horses or colts.

The writer had four draught horses, one of them a very spirited animal, and a sucking colt, in pasture on his farm in Plymouth county, Iowa, during the entire grazing season of 1879, and they are in the same pasture at present, neither colts nor horses sustaining any greater injury than a few scratches and small abrasions here and there on the skin, while they were educating their nerve powers and establishing memory. The necessary training begins by the horses being backed up against the barbed fence, the first time they are put in the pasture, and in fact during the first week, by the expiration of which period, colts and horses (we have no complaints as to cattle,) get pretty correct cautionary impressions as to how much barbs hurt, and how far it is safe to run or rub against the barbs. This I have seen.

I know good horsemen who keep their horses enclosed with barbed fence without material injury or loss, by giving the initiatory training against the barbs. I have heard of many colts being scratched but they need not be hurt. It is necessary to teach them and prevent cruelty, but this is not cruel. More barbed wire fence is now put up in a season, than of all other kinds

of fencing together, showing the value of the new departure in fencing on a wide scale, and in a very favorable manner.—*Country Gentleman.*

[The barbed wire fence is rapidly superseding other fences, in some parts of Maryland and the South. We know several gentlemen in southern Maryland, who have tried it, and are so well pleased that they say they will substitute it for log or plank fences, as fast as they require renewal. Some of these gentlemen are owners of highly improved breeds of stock, and breeders of very valuable horses. They find no trouble from the barbs, and their stock soon become educated to the fact that this fence will not permit them to become mischievous. We hope soon to give the experiences of some of those of our subscribers, who have used this fence, as to its actual cost and its advantages.—Eds. MD. FAR.]

POULTRY HOUSE.

Mammoth Bronze Turkeys.

The bronze is the leading variety of turkey with those who raise for market, on account of their large size and hardiness. They also challenge the admiration of all, by their very attractive plumage of rich and changeable colors. The cock turkey in full feather is really brilliant in appearance, and the females are only a little less beautiful. All of the experience of our best breeders has been brought to bear upon the bronze turkeys, which has resulted in their very high state of perfection; for this reason any one purchasing thoroughbred bronze turkeys may feel confident that certain fixed characteristic qualities will be reproduced in their offspring. Their weight is greater than the common stock, and one season's breeding will more than pay for the increased cost originally. Adult turkeys will average from thirty to forty pounds; hens, from fourteen to twenty pounds; young gobblers at eight months, from twenty-three to twenty-five pounds; young hens, from thirteen to fifteen pounds. We give these as fair average weight, although they are fre-

quently exceeded, adult pairs of from forty-five to sixty pounds being not uncommon. The bronze are good layers and very hardy; but the hen, if full grown, for breeding purposes, should not weigh over thirty-five pounds.—*Farmers' Magazine.*

Medical uses of Eggs.

For burns or scalds, nothing is more soothing than the white of an egg, which may be poured over the wound. It is softer as a varnish for burns than collodion, and being always at hand can be applied immediately. It is also more cooling than the "sweet oil and cotton," which was formerly supposed to be the surest application to allay the smarting pain. It is the contact with the air which gives the extreme discomfort experienced from ordinary accidents of this kind; and anything which excludes air and prevents inflammation, is the thing at once to be applied.

The egg is also considered one of the best remedies for dysentery. Beaten up slightly, with or without sugar, and swallowed at a gulp, it tends by its emollient qualities to lessen the inflammation of the stomach and intestines, and by forming a transient coating on those organs, to enable nature to resume her healthful sway over the diseased body. Two, or at most, three eggs per day, would be all that is required in ordinary cases; and since the egg is not merely medicine, but food as well, the lighter the diet otherwise, and the quieter the patient is kept, the more certain and rapid is the recovery.—*Exchange.*

Improve your Stock.

Every poultry raiser should decide what breed he prefers, and purchase a few thoroughbreds, with which to cross his common stock. If the object is to sell frying chicks, get the Partridge Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, Light Brahmas or Buff Cochins. If eggs are the object, get the Brown Leghorns or Houdans. No one who has tried one of these crosses will do without them afterwards.—*Exchange.*

The Coming Peach Crop.

One of the largest and most extensive peach growers of Kent county, Md., states, relative to the effect of the cold weather

upon peach trees, that he has examined several orchards in that county, but has not been able to find one live bud. In his opinion, the buds have all been killed, and the trees will not bloom this year. There will he says, be few, if any peaches on the peninsula the coming season.—*Baltimore Sun.*

We have our reasons for differing in opinion with the large "experienced peach grower of Kent county," and certainly hope his prediction will not prove true. We shall not only have a fine blossom, but fruit in abundance. We predict that in April, old Kent will be lovely in her usual dress of green wheat fields and peach blossoms.

California Doings.

We give the following extracts from a letter lately received from a friend and former Marylander, now of San Francisco.

"* * * *Celery* is one of the best known remedies for neuralgia, rheumatism and gout, taken either in its natural state or cooked with meats. It acts directly upon the blood, from the impurities or weakness of which, these diseases are caused. This remedy is an agreeable one, at least to me, and I indulge in it every day, try it. * *"

"This season bids fair to be a prosperous one for the farmers, grape-growers, etc. I have a friend in Napa county, who has 30 acres in bearing grape-vines, from which the past season, he has gathered 160 tons of grapes, which he sold for \$30 per ton, equal to \$4800, being a clear profit of about \$100 per acre. His vines are not yet in *full bearing*, but are all choice varieties of foreign grapes. The wine men of the valley are trying to contract with the outside grape growers for all grapes raised for the next five years, at the rate of \$25 per ton, but they can't see it. Our wheat growers are rejoicing in full warehouses of grain from the past season, and in the bright prospects of a good crop this year.

"Our poultry raisers do a good business, getting good prices for their produce the year round. Two years ago, I got 8 hens, and from them, my wife sold over \$100 worth of eggs and chickens, besides paying for their feed, that too, living as we were in the heart of Oakland." K.

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

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BALTIMORE, MARCH 1st, 1881.

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Any person who sends us 50 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 of the celebrated Wheat Fans, which has taken nearly 200 premiums. Value, \$28.00.

Any person who sends us 25 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Roland Plow. Value, \$12.00.

Any person who sends us 15 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Farm Bell. Value, \$6.00.

Any person who sends us 6 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Nickel-Plated Revolver, Long Fluted Cylinder. Value \$2.50.

THESE ARTICLES WE WARRANT TO BE FIRST-CLASS.

☞ It will not be necessary to secure the subscribers all at one time. For instance, if any one wants the Mill we offer for 80 new subscribers, he can send the names in any number he chooses, and we will allow him a whole year to finish the club.

☞ COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia Maryland and Virginia.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

Notice to Delinquent Subscribers.

This notice is intended for those only who are in arrears to the MARYLAND FARMER, for subscriptions for four years and over. Happily for us, there are but few such, and to them notice is hereby given, that this number of the FARMER will be the last they will receive from us, until all arrears are paid; and all accounts against such subscribers, not paid or settled by the first of May, will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection.

We much regret to have to resort to this course, to obtain what is honestly due to us, and trust that our friends will see the justice of this action, and endeavor to settle their respectively small amounts without the unpleasantness of a resort to the law.

In this connection we append the following from a late issue of that sturdy and well conducted paper, the Marlboro' Gazette:

"People who have subscribed for a newspaper will do well to bear in mind that the only legal way to discontinue their subscriptions, is to pay all arrears and order the paper stopped. An editor in New Haven, Connecticut, sued a man for forty-three dollars, due for papers furnished. The defendant set up a plea that he had several times ordered the paper discontinued; but the court held that, under the laws of the State, and the United States, a publisher may continue to send his paper until all delinquencies were settled up, and that the parties to whom the papers are sent, are liable for all copies so sent, and judgment was entered for the amount and costs."

THE TOBACCO INTEREST OF NORTH CAROLINA.—Is the title of a neatly printed essay, by J. D. Cameron, received from the publishers, W. A. Davis & Co., Oxford, N. C. Single copies to be had for 50 cents in postal stamps, by addressing the publishers. This essay contains much that is old and new, and is well worth the price asked for it, to every young, or even experienced grower in the west.

Works of Art.—Free.

With the Maryland Farmer for 1881.

Any new subscriber who sends \$1.50 will receive the MARYLAND FARMER for one year and his choice of either one of the splendid pictures, as advertised in this number with miniature wood cuts, which, however, give only a poor idea of the beauty of the engravings in the new style of art, which far surpass any chromo as objects of art. Any person sending \$2.00, will get the Farmer, and both pictures as advertised. This liberal offer is also extended to every old subscriber who pays up his arrears, and adds thereto 50 cents for one picture, or one dollar for the two.

Some, want to know how we can afford to furnish our subscribers, for 50 cents, a picture intrinsically worth and sells in the market for \$2.00.

The Mystery

Is explained in the following:

The reason why we can thus furnish Works really worth \$2 per copy is easily explained. We save you about the following customary commissions and expenses: 75 cents to the Retail, and 25 cents to the Wholesale dealers, 50 cents for expense of advertising and commercial travellers: total saved, \$1.50 on each \$2.00 work. We take them directly from the printing rooms, advertise them extensively, and make no charge therefor, relieve the manufacturer from these usual heavy expenses of sale; hence, we buy at low prices, do the work of advertiser, commercial traveller, jobber and retail dealer, free of charge to manufacturers, mail them free, expecting to be repaid by an increase of subscribers, and receive the thanks of thousands of our readers for assisting them to beautify their homes with such fine gems of art, at so little or no expense.

The above facts solve the problem.

THE MARYLAND FARMER FOR ONE YEAR, WITH TWO SPLENDID PICTURES, FOR ONLY \$2.00

CORRECTION.—In our last number, we gave a list of the officers of Kent Co. Agricultural Society, for 1881, taken from an Eastern Shore exchange, but it was somewhat incorrect. Samuel Vannort, Esq., is the President; and Mr. Frank H. Harper is now the Corresponding Secretary. The ability and energy of Mr. Vannort gives assurance that the Society will continue its popularity and usefulness.

The Baltimore County Agricultural Association will hold its next Annual Fair, on its grounds at Timonium, on September 6, 7, 8, and 9. The Farmers Convention intended to have been held at the Timonium Fair Grounds in February, owing to the severity of the weather, has been postponed to the 19th of May.

WHAT IS THE BEST VARIETY OF WHEAT?

—Professor Tracy desires to find out this fact for the benefit of all wheat growers. He has tried over 100 sorts, and now wants to hear from others, and begs that all wheat growers interested in this question will help the cause, by sending a postal card, giving the names of the varieties grown in their neighborhood, the yield of each, with any other information likely to prove beneficial, to Prof. S. M. Tracy, Agricultural College, Columbia, Mo.

THE article of our esteemed correspondent, "A. P. S." will attract the notice of many readers, who have assured us of the deep interest they feel in the discussion of the subject treated by our friend, and think it must lead to important results in the progress of agricultural chemistry. The materials used in manufacturing fertilizers to give them a strong odor or make them "loud smelling," are costly and add greatly to the price of the article, when they are of no actual value in the opinion of "A. P. S." This fact once clearly demonstrated will save thousands of dollars to the farmer.

White Burley Tobacco.

Dr. Killebrew, the able Commissioner of Agriculture, for Tennessee, gives the history and progress of this new variety of tobacco—"White Burley,"—in the following words:

"This is a sprout which originated in Brown county, Ohio, between 1860 and 1870. It has few qualities that we would call good. It is thin, so much so, that it will rattle like fodder. It has not enough gum to make it supple. It is a deep drinker. It is probably the mildest tobacco grown. We would call it thin, chaffy stuff, hardly fit to be put with lugs. But our opinions do not coincide with the opinions of the tobacco consuming people of America. Since 1872, at which time it began to be used for making plug tobacco, (before being used for cutting,) it has well nigh made the conquest of the United States. The sweet chew of Missouri, the sun-cured of Virginia, and indeed, all the favorite types for the manufacture of plug tobacco have been dethroned by this tobacco king of the Ohio Valley. And still its conquests spread. England wants it; Germany wants it; France would take it; but the American people have plainly said, we have not produced enough yet for the requirements of our manufacturers, and if you want it you must pay for it.

It appears that this tobacco sells for twice as much as the best heavy tobacco. Mr. Killebrew is so positive in his assertions, that he sums up his conclusions in these propositions:

1. We shall have just as much demand for the Burley tobacco abroad, if we should grow it, as we have now for our heavy leaf.
2. We shall have a market at home for all we can raise, probably for many years to come.
3. It will lead to the establishment of tobacco manufactories in our midst, that would stimulate and develop our agricultural interests more rapidly than any other one thing.

Never work with dull tools; they require too great an outlay of strength. The best mower we ever saw was a man who weighed only ninety-five pounds, but the secret of his success was a keen edge.

Complimentary Notices by the Press.

We give a few of these notices, which are the more gratefully appreciated by us, because they are entirely gratuitous. *They were not written and printed in slips in our office, like the "Dodges" sent out monthly by some agricultural journals*, but are the genuine expressions of approval and good will on the part of our esteemed brethren of the Press.

"THE MARYLAND FARMER for the incoming month is an excellent number, and will be read with interest, even by citizens not engaged in agriculture or the raising of stock. Many would like to know what should be the labors of the husbandman during the month of February, and how vegetables, fruit and flowers are best cultivated, the dairy products be rendered more abundant, and flocks and herds kept in the most thriving condition; the lands enriched with the least labor, and the ornamental and useful trees be preserved in vigorous growth. Horticulture has a large field assigned to it in the *Farmer*. The "Ladies Department" contains some choice domestic recipes for table delicacies, and what the fair sex will appreciate quite as highly, a delightful "Chat," by Patuxent Planter. "Floriculture in Conservatories and Garden," is the subject of a botanic essay by J. Feast, who has availed himself of his opportunities to make excursions to suburban graperies and green houses. The *Maryland Farmer* is the oldest agricultural journal in the State, but age has not impaired its usefulness; on the contrary, has enhanced its worth and increased its circulation. The merits of that agricultural magazine cannot be lowered so long as W. W. Bowie continues as one of its talented contributors.—*Ballo. Herald*.

THE MARYLAND FARMER comes to us in its February number in new typographical dress. The last number is, as usual, filled with matter interesting to farmers and housekeepers.—*Chester-town Transcript*.

MARYLAND FARMER.—The February number of this veteran agricultural journal comes to us much enlarged and improved in a new and handsome dress, presenting a neat and tasteful appearance. It is published by EZRA WHITMAN, Esq., editor and proprietor, No. 141 West Pratt Street, Baltimore. That accomplished writer, Col. WAL-

TER W. W. BOWIE, is still the associate editor, which is a guarantee that the *Farmer* in all its departments, will be fully up to the mark. We wish it continued prosperity.—*Prince Georgian*.

The publishers of the MARYLAND FARMER have treated themselves to a new typographical dress. In its new suit this old farmer's favorite is hardly recognized.—*The Havre Republican*.

THE MARYLAND FARMER for January, lies upon our desk, and is one of the most valuable and readable agricultural works published in this country, and the terms are only \$1.00 a year, in advance; in fact, still cheaper, as its subscribers receive in addition to the work, either Vick's Flower Seeds, or Kendall's book on the horse, each valued at 25 cents.—*Laurel Gleaner*.

The MARYLAND FARMER for February comes to us rigged out in a handsome, new dress, which adds very much to its appearance, and is an indication of the success with which the old *Farmer* is meeting with. It is our wish that it may continue to receive increased patronage, as its merits deserve.—*Frederick Examiner*.

We are in receipt of the MARYLAND FARMER for January, although received a little late, owing to a change in the mechanical department of its office, it is nevertheless, none the less welcome.—We scarcely recognised our old friend in its bright face of clear, new type. Its contents partake of the brightness of the new dress, in the freshness and interest of its articles. In a word, its contents are a rich repository of useful information for the farmer. Patuxent Planter's "Chat with the Ladies," is most seasonable, and is, at the same time, a charming pen sketch of ye winters in ye olden time, and is altogether a pleasant retrospect. Ezra Whitman, the courteous editor, tells his country friends that he is prepared to welcome them to his enlarged and cosy office.—*Marlboro Gazette*.

THE MARYLAND FARMER comes to us this week in a new dress. We are glad to see this evidence of renewed life, and trust that the patrons of that excellent work will aid them in their work for the advancement of the agriculturalists of the day.—*Delawarean*.

THE MARYLAND FARMER for February comes to us in a new dress, more bright and beautiful than ever. It is one of the oldest and the very best monthly agricultural journals published, full of practical ideas.—*Clarksville Tobacco Leaf, Tenn.*

Journalistic.

THE ORIGINAL CHATTERBOX, an English monthly, with an American supplement of eight pages, being forty pages, including sixteen full page, beautiful illustrations. The January number has a pretty colored engraving of "Faithful Friends." It is handsomely printed on heavy paper and is one of the best periodicals for children we know. Published by Estes and Lauriat, Boston. \$1 per year, with premium of "Ought and Carry One," a large and elegant steel engraving, showing how a beautiful little girl is puzzled over her first lesson in arithmetic. This little work takes the place of Frank Leslie's "Chatterbox," subscribers to which, will have their unexpired subscriptions filled by this English-American Monthly.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RAYS OF LIGHT.—Is the title to a very handsome Quarterly Magazine, devoted to the practice and science of Photography, being a record of the progress of that art, edited with ability and great taste, by Richard Walz, Baltimore. It is of much value to all engaged in photographic work, and would grace the library table of refined scholars. The first number for the current year lies before us, and is very interesting. It is embellished by a superb illustration from the atelier of Wm. Roche, of Chicago.

Catalogues Received.

From J. J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass., his illustrated Catalogue of Vegetable, Flower and Grain Seeds, for 1881. Mr. G. is one of the oldest and most reliable seed growers in this country.

From Ellwanger and Barry, of the long popular and highly reputed Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y., their Catalogues of Fruits, Ornamental Trees, Fruit Trees, Flowering Shrubs and Roses, for 1881. These several catalogues are fully descriptive and illustrated, and of great value of themselves. We need add nothing to what we have already said of the great reliability of this old nursery. See their advertisement in this number of the Farmer.

From E. P. Roe, Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y., Catalogue for Spring of 1881, of Small Fruits, Mr. R. is the author of the beautifully printed and embellished work on "Success with Small Fruits."

From W. B. Jones and Sons, Herndon, Ga., their Catalogue of Choice Southern Fruit Trees, &c., with seeds of everything for the field and garden. We call attention to their advertisement in this number.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Organic Matter in Fertilizers.

Some months have passed since Mr. Lawes accepted my challenge regarding the use of organic matter in fertilizers, and promised to convince your readers as well as myself of the truth of his theory. Many like the writer, have with much interest, waited for his reply to my article, and I regret the discussion was so suddenly dropped on his part.

Knowing the extensive work he has undertaken, and the important and interesting investigation going on under his direction, which necessarily occupies his time, I can easily imagine the difficulty and labor in conducting his extensive correspondence, hence, the neglect in sending to you his promised article, which would make a convert of me, and interest many of your readers, who, I know, are seeking information on this all important question,—what shall we do with our worn out, neglected lands?—thousands of acres of which can be found within a short ride of Baltimore. I have received several interesting letters from Mr. Lawes, and may furnish some extracts from the same if an opportunity offers. In his last, he gives the result of his twenty-ninth crop of barley, on the same spot. In this last experiment there is a decided difference in favor of the mixture of super phosphate and nitrate of soda over the application of the former alone. Such a result is no more than what I should look for, as I have never doubted the stimulating influence of *inorganic ammonia*. I regret he did not give the quantities used of each, but judging from numerous other experiments of his, the cost of the nitrogen in the nitrate would be far beyond the means of our farmers, and as he truly says would not pay us, and that would settle the question regarding the application of inorganic nitrogen, and the question falls back upon my original proposition; does it pay to introduce the draining and scraping of slaughter houses, refuse of soap works, in the shape of greasy cracklins, old burnt shoes, as some use, and every other stuff that can be found to stuff into fertilizers to the amount of 20 to 30 per cent. to secure two or three per cent. of free ammonia, after putrefaction or destruction of the organic matter, and simply, as it is claimed, to

give the plant an early start. I have no hesitation in stating that it is my firm conviction that the whole theory is a fallacious one, and like all great errors only awaits its fate, when time will scatter to the winds the ridiculous idea that organic matter is plant food. Regarding the importance in the soil of carbonaceous matter, which is the result of the decay of some plant life, I will not refer to in this, for it is too long a story. Organic life creeps out of the inorganic elements, air, water, heat and mother earth, in some simple form that promises a bright future, *i. e.* animal life; but to original elements it must pass before it can again become plant food. A pound of starch in a potato hill would not furnish an atom for the growing potato, no more than the same of honey or sugar would furnish the sweet smelling flower a single taste for the busy bee in his morning visit. The first (starch) the dawn of organic life, creeps out of the air, water and the influence of heat, and in its onward march furnishes food for man and beast.

Last fall, numerous applications as experiments were made on my wheat, using strictly mineral matter in some cases, and highly ammoniated fertilizers in others, through the same drill and alongside of each other, and up to the last time I had examined the growing wheat, not the slightest difference could be observed. The spring growth and final result will be watched with much interest, especially as one of the articles used, was a fertilizer made upon a new principle, instead of sulphuric acid being used to break up the organic structure of the bones, etc., it is done by fire, as the name indicates, Vulcanite phosphate, and the formula proposed by Dr. Liebig, of this city. I have no idea of the process, but have some faith that the doctor is on the right track, as this does not pretend to have any soluble or super phosphate, nor is it necessary that it should have.

The absurdity of a soluble phosphate is apparent to every one who has learned the first principles of chemistry, and to base the value of a phosphate on the per cent. of soluble phosphate of lime is all bosh, and the sooner our farmers come to understand this, the better. That a soluble phosphate can exist one moment in the soil, in the presence of lime, potash, or alkaline earth, is simply an impossibility, and yet we

find chemists testifying to the value of fertilizers according to the per cent. of soluble phosphate of lime. I am glad Dr. L. has discarded his old theory of the importance of soluble phosphate of lime, on which subject we have so often measured weapons which reminds me of the old adage, "wise men change, fools never do." The true value of a phosphate should be based upon the per cent. of INSOLUBLE precipitated, or very finely divided phosphate, or in the absence of that, pure, finely powdered bone will take its place. It is high time to cease gulling the farmers with soluble phosphate of lime and 30 per cent. of old shoes, leather, cracklin, blood, &c., with the prospect of 3 or 4 per cent. of ammonia. Even the refuse of the oleomargarine, butter (so called) factories, I am told, is sold to fill up the 30 per cent. organic matter,—anything to swear by.

On a field of my neighbor, Mr. Wilkinson, some 30 or forty years ago, there was an old charcoal pit, and to this day the spot is known by the growth of clover, grain, &c. over the surrounding land. Blood, cracklins, toasted old shoes, and the like did not mark the spot. A. P. S.

ROCK HALL.

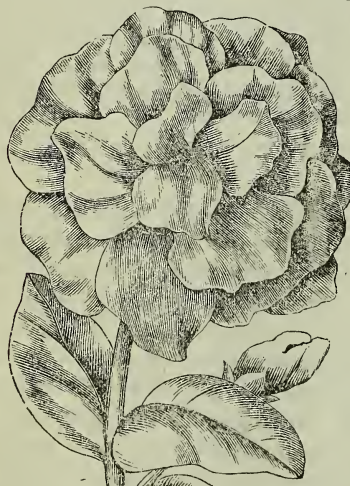
SELECT ROSES.—We call attention of all who delight in rose culture, to the advertisement in this number, of Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, N.Y. They have issued a catalogue for 1881, of Roses, new and select, which we suggest to our lady friends especially, should be obtained and studied. It is not only descriptive of each rose, but we find different from any catalogue we have ever seen, either American or European, in that it gives the names of the producer, the year when the variety was sent out, and the parentage of each variety. It also gives complete directions as to the planting, pruning, general cultivation, and caring for, &c. of roses. It is accompanied with a splendid print of several superb roses, in full bloom, colored to the life. Here is a chance for obtaining a selection of the best and newest varieties of this queen of flowers, from reliable florists at reasonable cost.

HORTICULTURAL.

PETUNIAS.

The Petunia is a plant particularly well adapted to our bright climate, and we are continually hearing good things about it from all quarters. In England it is very satisfactory, and new use is constantly found for it. The double flowered varieties are considerably used there for late summer and autumn decoration of the greenhouse and conservatory.

Our correspondents frequently mention the Petunia as one of the best winter flowering window plants. A writer in an English journal, in reference to the Petunia for conservatory decorations, says: "I would strongly recommend anyone having such places to keep gay, to get a packet of seed of the double varieties, and sow it at once; double kinds being best adapted for pot culture and not so suitable for turning out,



DOUBLE PETUNIA.

their flowers being too heavy to withstand the effect of wind and wet, which toward the end of the season, sadly mar their beauty."

By sowing early, large blooming plants may be had by spring. It is necessary that the young plants should be kept close to the glass, for the least shade tends to draw them up and make them puny.

"Although double Petunias may be propagated by means of cuttings, seedlings are preferable, as they grow stronger and give little trouble; but when any of very

superior merit show themselves, it is always worth while keeping a stock plant of such for cuttings.

"The single forms make grand beds, if planted where they can have plenty of room to spread, but, as they are naturally strong growers, a poor soil is best for them, if deep, so that the roots could get well down; that checks any tendency to over robustness, and yet affords the necessary support during dry weather. Besides forming magnificent beds, single Petunias make fine masses in borders; but when used in that way they require support. The neatest and best way of effecting this, is using coarse meshed wire cut into yard lengths, which, tied to stakes at the ends, form a capital frame, through which they spread their shoots and completely hide the wire with their gay blossoms and foliage. There are many other plants of a similar character for which a trellis made in this way answers well, and as they last for years, nothing for the purpose can be cheaper or more handy."

As Petunia seeds are very small, they should only be lightly covered at the time of sowing, otherwise, the young plants are unable to push through the soil. Pans for such seeds should be filled nearly full with rough leaf mould, and on the top of that should be put an inch or so of finely sifted soil, made perfectly level and smooth. That done, the next thing is to give a gentle watering, and then they should not be disturbed for a few hours, when all will be ready for sowing. This should be done thinly, and a little sand sprinkled over the seeds, when, if placed in a moist heat, they will soon germinate, especially if the pan be covered with a sheet of glass, or kept dark by a piece of paper for two or three days, as by that means evaporation is intercepted and a more uniform warmth maintained.—*Vick's Illustrated Monthly Maga-*

For maggots which work at the roots of squash vines, it is said that a tablespoonful of saltpetre, in a pailful of water, applied to the roots will destroy these pests, and greatly invigorate the vines.

A decoction of tansey poured on cabbage plants will drive away the worms.

Lime water and sweet oil are excellent for all kinds of sun-burn.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Horticulture in Maryland up to 1880.

BY JOHN FEAST.

Mr. McMurray who has a fine dwelling on Biddle street, has limited grounds, but well taken care of. He has two small houses, one for grapes, and one for flowers, and a room over his stable in which plants do very well. There is a good general collection of plants, with some fine Azaleas, Rhododendrons and succulent plants, under the care of R. H. P. De Arning, who had charge of his establishment near Frederick City, for growing mushrooms on a large scale. Of his success I cannot speak from personal knowledge. The growing of mushrooms would prove profitable if attended to properly. They would be more cultivated if it was generally known how simple was the process. The old method is best, requiring beds, properly prepared, and set with good spawn, and proper attention afterwards, the trouble and expense being slight, large yields may be safely expected. The taste for this fungous edible is a cultivated one, like that for the tomato, but once generally acquired it would be as popular as that for the tomato has become.

Mr. Dietrich, at the "People's Gas House," has shown his taste for horticulture, in planting trees and laying off borders filled in summer with flowers and bedding plants, raised on the place, all of which present a pleasant view to numerous visitors.

At the city jail there is to be seen a fine collection of plants, and quantities of lovely flowers, which reflects great credit upon the managers of that institution, evidencing as it does a kind and humane feeling for the unfortunate inmates.

MONT-BELLO—the country-seat of Mr. Henry Garrett, about two miles north of the city, is an old place, formerly belonging to Mr. Tiffany. The mansion stands on an eminence, commanding a fine view of the bay and city, with a dense forest of large trees in the rear, and a fine lawn in front, which slopes to the south. This lawn is laid out with beds for shrubbery and flowers, the latter mostly grown in the two green-houses, that are usually well filled in winter, for out-door decoration in summer. The natural advantages of this place are very fine.

Mr. Abbott's place adjoins the above, but is not so extensive. He has a splendid mansion and beautiful grounds; the taste with which the trees are selected and placed, and the positions of the beds well filled with flowers, show the devotion of Mrs. Abbott to horticulture, which in time, it being a new place, will no doubt realize her expectations. The location is beautiful, giving an expansive view of the bay and the surrounding country.

Within the Abbott enclosure, Mr. Gilman, who is the son-in-law of Mr. A. has nice grounds, with two houses for plants, and one for grapes. He has, for his gardener, Mr. Jno. Flitton, a skillful horticulturalist, having filled some of the best situations, both here and abroad, is thoroughly competent for the situation. He is a good grower of plants and a knowing grape grower. Time is only wanted to develop the extent and value of Mr. Gilman's place as a superior flower and grape producing suburban residence.

Mr. Howard McHenry, Pikesville, Baltimore county, well known as an amateur horticulturalist, practical agriculturalist and extensive breeder of improved breeds of domestic animals, has a fine estate and very desirable homestead, surrounded by all the adornments of floriculture. He has houses for plants and grapes for his own use, but grows large quantities of vegetables for market, beside his farm crops. The place is an attractive one, especially so in summer, when the flowers are blooming profusely, and the shade trees are all in their beauty. The grounds are well kept.

Mr. Augustus Albert's place is six miles out on the York road. A short distance, from the road to the house is planted with trees, and interspersed with places for flowers and flowering plants. There are one or more small houses for growing chiefly bedding-out plants to decorate the numerous borders, which, in summer, are made to present a large area of bright, blooming flowers and plants that render the grounds very attractive.

Mr. Pepae, a jeweller in West Baltimore, is a great lover of flowers, and has a small green house which is well filled with choice flowers for an amateur. He has a great variety of bulbous rooted plants, such as Amyrillas, Lilies, Gloxinias, Gesnerias and many others. He is fond of growing from seeds, and has produced several fine seed-

lings of various plants. He endeavors to procure any new plant, but his grounds are too limited to show the full extent of his taste and love of flowers.

[To be continued.]

For the Maryland Farmer.

Sugar Cane Culture, and the Manufacture of Sugar in the South.

BY AUGUSTINE J. SMITH.

Baltimore, Md.

ST. MARY'S PARISH, LA. Jan. 30, 1881.

Messrs. Editors.—I propose now to redeem my promise to contribute an article on this *saccharine* country, together with a description of sugar culture, and the mode of manufacturing this valuable product.

The sugar cane although the great staple, is not a native of Louisiana, and indeed, is only a forced crop within the limits of the United States. In its native home, the West Indies, it grows spontaneously, and when cultivated on the plantations, passes through all the stages of planting, growing and ripening, and is gathered, ground, and converted into sugar, without danger of frost or freeze. In Louisiana, however, all these processes are forced. In the West Indies, the planter need not cut his cane, nor begin harvesting until his crop is ripe. In Louisiana, he must commence sugar making before the cane is thoroughly matured, for fear a freeze may overtake him, and prevent granulation of the juice, by destroying, as it will, its sweetness or saccharine properties. Even in its ripe state it requires the most skillful treatment to obtain a profitable per cent. of granulation out of the cane, which, of course is diminished in proportion as it is green or immature. If caught by a freeze, which not unfrequently occurs towards the end of the sugar-making season, the juice becomes so acidified as to thwart all efforts to granulate it, and ceases to be profitable, producing only an inferior molasses.

The crop in Louisiana suffers serious disadvantage with that of the West Indies in other particulars, for instance, in the West Indies, the crop need not be planted oftener than eight or ten years, all the crops succeeding this first or plant crop, being what is called a stubble yield, germinating as they do from the stubble, or below the point where the stalk of the previous crop

had been cut for grinding. Again, in Louisiana, rarely more than one, nor never more than two stubble crops can be gathered profitably. The disadvantage of this is readily seen, when it is known that it requires one-eighth of every crop to be laid aside for seed, that is, every eighth acre must be cultivated for seed. Consequently, when a planter raises cane sufficient to make in sugar, what is worth eight thousand dollars, one-eighth, or what represents one thousand dollars must be reserved for planting. If the cane could be propagated from a grain or seed like corn or sorghum, then an enormously expensive item might be saved to the planter, and a valuable consideration go into his pocket as profit, which now must be buried in the soil for reproduction. How much then is this disadvantage heightened, and I might almost say aggravated, compared with the West Indies, when it is remembered that eight crops are planted in Louisiana, to one in the West Indies. But the crop must be propagated from the *cane itself*, which is similar to the corn stalk, having a succession of joints. Each stalk is laid in the furrow lengthwise. At each joint there is an eye or bud, and it is the sprouting of this that produces the plant. After the sprouts from the eye or bud shoot up pretty well, other sprouts or suckers put forth from them to the number of fifteen or twenty from each, and it is these, which having attained mature growth become the well developed stalks or cane, which are almost as heavy as lead with saccharine juice. At this point I will venture to say, that while I entertain a high regard for Commissioner LeDuc's energy and ability, and especially for his commendable zeal in behalf of the agricultural interests of this country, yet, I cannot accept as an accomplished fact, without further proof, his assertion that either the corn or the sorghum plant can be made profitable as a sugar-producing staple. When it is demonstrated that the cane or sugar plant, *per se*, with all its saccharine density, is only in this country profitable, when handled and treated with the skill of an expert, how is it possible that a plant with very far inferior saccharine qualities, and with less propitious surroundings, climatic and otherwise, should be made profitable? In my opinion, the Indian corn plant in no stage of its growth or development, will ever be utilized as a saccharine product, much less

is it capable of utilization, after the ear has been reaped. And while the sorghum plant may answer the purpose of supplying the farmer with molasses, and perhaps sugar of a low grade, sufficient for his own use, from labor snatched from ordinary farm work, yet the product will be inferior to that of the sugar cane, and under no circumstances would be a competitor, nor be made profitable as an independent enterprise.

The greatest skill is necessary for the profitable cultivation of the sugar cane; and the knowledge acquired in producing the cereals or other crops, avail but little in this. A crop may be lost at several stages of its development, if even slightly neglected. Hence the saying, "that a sugar planter has no rest." Like woman's work, his, is never done. Cane culture differs from corn, in that it is planted in furrows instead of in hills, and a newly planted cane field presents the appearance of a succession of ridges about six feet apart, with furrows between, made by the soil having been thrown up by the plow to the roots of the plant. But these furrows are essential as drains, as the plant will not thrive unless kept free from excess of water. The crop when growing, looks like vast fields of corn produced by broadcast sowing, only the cane grows to greater height, attaining often ten or twelve feet in the field. When cut for grinding though, a considerable portion of the top is thrown away, because too green or devoid of saccharine matter. Labor and fuel are too expensive to attempt to utilize any but the decidedly saccharine portion of the stalk, and that too, in a ripe condition, therefore the average length of the stalk cut for the mill, will probably not exceed seven feet.

Planting can be done any time between the first of October and March, but it is considered unfortunate not to have the crop in the ground by the 1st of February, and even earlier would be preferred, and indeed would be accomplished generally, but for the necessity of utilizing the whole plantation force in making sugar, under the ever present dread of a freeze.

From the time the eye or bud begins to sprout, until the crop is what is called "laid by," which is about 1st July, the labor is incessant to man and beast. The crop is ready to be "laid by," when the blades meet across the furrows above, and the far-reaching roots meet below.

It is considered that one hand will cultivate ten acres of cane and five of corn or other crops, and that ordinarily productive land will produce an average of eighteen to twenty tons of cane and twenty bushels of corn to the acre. A ton of cane will average one hundred and twenty-five gallons of juice, which will "pan out" about one hundred pounds of clarified sugar and four gallons of molasses, which this year as well as last, would be worth in the sugar house, eight cents a pound, and thirty cents a gallon.

Before the war, a refinery was a rare sight in Louisiana, but now they are numerous and are fast uprooting the old open kettle process, and extracting as they do, considerably more sugar than the old process, have added very materially to the profit of the product.

The time immemorial open kettle process consists of generally five kettles, similar in appearance to the iron kettles used by farmers to boil food for stock—these are built or set in a row, in a brick furnace, adapted for burning wood or coal. The cane is ground in a mill constructed of iron rollers, through which it passes, it being delivered to these by an endless carrier, similar to that used in threshing wheat. From this mill the juice passes into a large vat, called the bleacher, where it is kept constantly whirled into a spray or mist by a paddle wheel. Into this bleacher is forced the bleaching agent, the sulphur fumes, which permeate and as it were, saturate thoroughly the juice thus agitated, and passes up and out a chimney constructed for its egress. From this bleacher the juice is conducted to the kettles, consecutively, where by different degrees of heat, with the use of lime, it is purified and clarified, (lime operating chemically to separate the impurities from the saccharine properties) and the foreign matter and impurities which rise to the surface are skimmed off. Under this process it passes from kettle to kettle, until it reaches the last one, which is called the Battery, at which stage it has by great heat, become the syrup, which is granulated up to the highest productive sugar making point. It is then passed into vats or coolers, in its liquid form, where, within forty-eight hours it granulates in cooling, and becomes a mass of thick grain, almost as stiff as the soft sugar sometimes seen in hogsheds. The object now is to separate this grain from the molasses in it,

which is done by shoveling this mass or mixture into hogsheads placed on an inclined platform. The molasses then drains through the holes in the bottom of the hogshead and runs down the incline into vats, from whence it is pumped into barrels. The hogsheads must be refilled several times before they become full of hard, well drained sugar.

The stalk or fibrous substance of the cane, left after extracting the juice, is called bagasse, and until recently has been considered so worthless as to force the construction of expensive kilns to burn it, in order to get rid of it. It is claimed however, that chemical and mechanical agents have been lately discovered, by which this cast-off nuisance will become an element of considerable profit, by being utilized for making paper.

The open kettle process produced the old fashioned brown sugar, once so popular, but the march of taste is fast ostracizing this *fossilism*, and within a short time, the beautiful, pure white crystals will have achieved their predominance in public estimation, over the darker colors, as thoroughly as the fair-haired race over all others of the human family, and while what is called refined sugars, do not always, unfortunately, mean purity and wholesomeness, yet, this is not because of the mode of manufacture, but is owing to adulteration, a vice which I do not believe has yet demoralized the manufacturing process, or the consciences of Louisiana planters.

The great cost of sugar culture is the sugar house, with its machinery, &c., running as it does for the simple open kettle process, from five to twenty-five thousand dollars, and for the new, or refinery mode, from fifteen to fifty thousand dollars. Consequently many planters simply raise the cane and sell it to the refineries or central factories, and this is often done by those who have sugar houses, believing as they do, that the profit is greater than to bear the additional expense and worry of converting the juice into sugar. Many reduce their juice to syrup and employ refineries to take it to the sugar point. For this they usually pay, $1\frac{1}{4}$ of a cent per pound. The amount allowed for the cane delivered at the factory, is from \$3.50 to \$4.00 a ton. This would realize the planter from sixty to eighty dollars per acre, from which deducting the cost of production, say forty dollars an acre, and you have the net re-

sult, which shows a more liberal remuneration to labor, than any other agricultural product, or even mechanical or manufacturing occupation. Labor, here, commands twenty dollars a month, except during sugar making, when one dollar a day is given, which would thus run the average rate to perhaps \$25 a month.

The facilities which central factories afford for granulating the juice, relieves the planter of an expensive equipment, and places it within the reach of any person who can command two mules, a plow, and a cart, to become not only self-supporting, but in time, a prosperous sugar planter by simply raising the cane.

Within twenty-five years past, for the want of demand, and in the absence of efficient machinery for manufacturing the crop, molasses was often not worth hauling, and was emptied into the streams. What a revolution since! What was thrown away then as worthless, should have been at that time what it is now, an annual source of wealth. The new, and what may be called the "vacuum pan," and "centrifugal" process not only extracts a larger per cent. of sugar than had been previously obtained, but a much better article, making the product at the same time marketable within twenty-four hours from the time the juice left the mill, whereas the old mode produced a much inferior sugar, and required from four to five weeks in which to drain it and make it fit for shipment.

To describe minutely the new process would be tedious and unnecessary, but to make this article complete, perhaps I should give a general outline, so far as to remark that instead of the iron kettles or pans of the old mode, under which the fire had to be applied directly, thus preventing uniformity of heat, and running the risk of scorching and burning the syrup, the new process uses steam, which is conducted to the clarifiers and evaporators, through and into the copper pipes, which are wound in coils therein. In the former, it is not permitted to reach a temperature up to, but slightly below the boiling point, this being the degree which most thoroughly separates the impurities, and in conjunction with lime, clarifies the juice. In the latter, however, the heat is increased to such an intense degree as to evaporate the large per cent of water rapidly, that it may be prepared to be passed to the vacuum pan, where granulation is done, and which

is, indeed, the *sine qua non* feature of the process. The vacuum pan is a large, dome-shaped vessel, made of iron, with copper coils within, for receiving the steam which is to cook and grain the syrup. This pan is made air-tight, and here, with the weight of the atmosphere removed by a pump, the syrup is boiled under conditions so favorable and controllable, as to place granulation completely under the command of the manipulator, and as the amount of intelligent skill applied at this point of manufacture, so is the result as to the quality of sugar accomplished.

After granulation here, the resultant mixture of sugar and molasses is passed through the "mixer" to the "centrifugals," where the two are separated, the molasses being thrown off with great velocity through minute perforations in the rim, while the sugar remains. The "centrifugals" are the shape of mill burrs, but much smaller, and hollow, with an opening at the top to receive the mixture. They are set like mill burrs, perfectly plumb, with the most delicate accuracy, and are operated like them, by a horizontal, rotary motion, at an invisible speed. While all the mechanical appliances which constitute this process are important and ingeniously contrived, yet, not the least valuable and indispensable element in its success, is the efficient utilization of steam, by which the degree and uniformity of temperature is absolutely controlled at every point and stage of manufacture.

It is thus readily seen that while the sugar crop of Louisiana, could never have been completely snatched from the freezing grasp of winter, under the old mode, yet, by the new process it is made practicable to gather and secure it as thoroughly and safely as that of the tropics. This fact makes it the most profitable and remunerative agricultural industry to capital and labor to be found on the American continent, and when it is known that besides the cheapness of improved plantation property to be had in Louisiana, there is an extensive area of unimproved land, in healthy localities, adapted for both sugar and cotton culture, that can be purchased at from one dollar and twenty-five cent. to five dollars an acre, it places this State prominently among those that should attract the attention of emigration.

[To be continued.]

[At our request, the above interesting essay was written by our esteemed friend and correspondent, who, having removed to our city after the war, from his native State, Virginia, has been intimately associated with its important business interests and in this direction, has long been connected with the sugar trade, and has spent much of his time in the sugar regions of this country and elsewhere, and while representing large and important commercial interests in this and other cities has acquired a great stock of information in regard to the culture, manufacture and values of sugar plants, and at this time, when our indefatigable Commissioner, Gen. Le Duc, is doing all he can to discover a cheap product from which sugar can be made all over the United States, and thereby save \$100,000,000 annually to our people, we feel greatly indebted to Mr. Smith for this elaborate essay. Our people want knowledge on sugar making and about sugar producing plants, and we feel sure that this essay of our friend will do much to elicit information and friendly views from all who have the sugar subject at heart for personal emolument and the public good. We wish this subject fully ventilated for the benefit of a large class of our subscribers, who cultivate the sugar cane, sorghum and maize for the purpose of sugar making, and besides we desire to see enough of this "sweetening" grown within our borders, for all our wants, without the necessity to go abroad for an article that has become a necessity of civilization.

We regret our limits do not allow us to publish this essay in its entirety, but will give the concluding portion, which relates to the sugar country, soil, &c., and is very interesting, in our April number. What Mr. Smith states may be relied upon, for in addition to being a writer of recognized ability, he is one of our most worthy and respected citizens.

We will be pleased to furnish further information to parties wishing either to purchase plantation property, or engage in the manufacture of sugar in the sugar belt.—
EDS. MD. FAR.]

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for March.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

The unusually long spell of cold weather with a deep snow covering the ground, gave the opportunity and was embraced, for the old and young to enjoy sleighing and coasting. Such pleasures bring out all the jollity and merriment that belongs to a community, and we delight to see it and participate in it. During this period of fun, I could but feel regret at the numberless slang phrases, I heard not only from boys and young men but passing through the coral lips of youthful beauties. I then determined for the benefit of those I love, to call attention in my chat for this month, to the growing habit of the young, of using "slang," which in purer days was considered out of place in society, if not vulgar. I had mapped out mentally a short sermon, in which I urged the duty of parents and guardians to try, as far as possible to check this habit on the part of the rising generation, but I came across the following lines, by that rollicking, witty writer, Wild Oats, so much more forcibly expressing my views than I could have done, that I determined to ask leave to substitute it for my chat. It is not only funny but sensible.

GRANDPA'S SOLILOQUY.

It wasn't so when I was young,
We used plain language then ;
We didn't speak of them "galoots,"
When meaning boys or men.

When speaking of the nice hand-write
Of Joe, or Tom or Bill,
We did it plain—we didn't say,
"He slings a nasty quill."

Then, when we met a good old friend
We hadn't lately seen,
We greeted him—but didn't say,
"Hello, you old sardine."

The boys got mad sometimes and fit,
We spoke of kicks and blows ;
But now they "whack him on the snoot,"
And "paste him on the nose."

Once, when a youth was turned away
From her he loved most dear,
He walked off on his feet—but now
He "crawls off on his ear."

We used to dance when I was young,
And used to call it so ;
But now they don't—they only "sling
The light fantastic toe."

Of death they spoke in language plain,
That no one did perplex,
But in these days one doesn't die—
He "passes in his checks."

We praised a man of common sense ;
"His judgment's good," we said,
But now they say, "Well, that old plum
Has got a level head."

It's rather sad the children now
Are learning all such talk ;
They've learned to "chin" instead of chat,
And "waltz" instead of walk.

To little Henry, yesterday—
My grandchild, aged two—
I said, "Do you love grandpa," said he,
"You bet your boots I do."

The children bowed to strangers once,
It is no longer so—
The little girls, as well as boys
Now greet you with "hello."

Oh, give me back the good, old days,
When both the old and young
Conversed in plain, old fashioned words,
And slang was never slung.

House-hold Recipes.

MAKING CHICKEN PIE.—Chicken pie is one of the good things in which epicures especially delight ; and all the memories of Thanksgiving days teem with the delicious fragrance which emanates from the capacious tin pan filled to heaping up with this old fashioned luxury.

Take four good-sized, fat chickens ; cut up at all the joints, wash thoroughly and put into a two gallon kettle, with just water enough to cover them, boil slowly, and skim nicely. When tender throw in a table spoonful of salt and a piece of butter as large as a coffee cup. Take out the chicken, and stir up four spoonfuls of flour in a

teacupful of cold water, and drop into the liquid that the chickens were boiled in. Stir it well and let it boil about five minutes, then remove from the fire.

Take two quarts of sifted flour and a lump of lard the size of a coffee cup. Rub the lard thoroughly with the flour, then take two coffee-cupfuls of sour cream, add half a teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in two spoonfuls of water, stir up quickly, and knead lightly. Butter a six quart tin pan, and roll out the crust half an inch thick, and cover the dish inside. Now place the chicken in the dish, packing it closely, pour in enough of the soup to fill the pan within half an inch of the top of the rim. Roll out another crust, and spread over the top, pinching it down tightly round the rim of the pan. Now cut out from the remnant of the dough a scalloped edge, and bind around; cut a ventilator in the centre of the pie, and spread a paper over the top so it will not scorch, and bake two hours. It is the best thank giving dish that ever made a hungry child's mouth water.—*Country Gentleman*.

LIVER—VENICE FASHION.—Take a couple of onions, finely chopped, and fry them in oil and butter, with plenty of chopped sweet herbs till quite done. Just before serving throw into the same frying pan, one pound of liver coarsely chopped; fry altogether, as the liver does not require much cooking.

POTATO SALAD.—Thin slices of cold, boiled potatoes, thin slices of hard boiled eggs, minced pickled onion. Into a salad dish put a layer of potatoes, cover with the eggs and strew over a few bits of the onion. This alternate until all are in. Make a dressing in the proportion of one tablespoonful of vinegar to three of salad oil, one teaspoon full of salt to one-third teaspoonful of pepper and the same quantity of made mustard. Mix thoroughly and pour over. Let stand half an hour before eating.

LEMON SAUCE.—Beat to a froth one tablespoonful of butter, one cup of sugar, one tablespoonful of corn starch and two eggs. When very smooth and light add one cup of boiling water and stir five minutes. Season with half a teaspoonful of lemon and serve.

The Ensilage of the Hay Crop.

BY A. S. HEATH, M. D.

In 1850, in Versailles, France, M. Goffart made experiments in the ensilage of wheat. In 1852, he made further experiments in the preservation of maize, Jerusalem artichokes, beets, sorghum, turnips, potatoes, straw, &c.

In this country, Messrs. Morris, Brown, Potter, and others have all mainly depended upon green corn for ensilage, with more

than fair success. But I do not think they go far enough. In an editorial in the *American Dairyman* of November 25th 1880, the suggestion was made to preserve the entire hay crop by ensilage. We believe that this is the first bold stroke for one of the greatest innovations in modern agriculture. Why should it not prove a grand success? It would save at least one quarter of the entire value of the hay crop of the world, or about eighty millions of dollars annually to the farmers of United States. This is predicted upon the expectation and reliance that the silos and ensilage shall be well up to the standard of perfection. The cutting machinery should be the very best also, and all the details should adopt the latest improvements. Hot weather is a sure cause of deterioration in the hay crop of the country; not so much in the number of tons of hay as in a much more important factor—the quality. A ton of good hay will yield more and better, butter and cheese than many tons of bad hay. Nay, more, bad hay can never produce first class butter or cheese. And the fact is patent, that the country produces too much bad butter and cheese for profit or reputation. By this plan, the entire crop of grass could be gathered in spite of weather, and at the daily convenience of the farmer; while the haying season drains man and beast to the last degree of fatigue and distress, for the adage "make hay while the sun shines" is the imperative rule that knows no exception.

Besides this great advantage of the ensilage plan, there are many others. One is, that there can be no destruction of fodder, by lightning, fire or other causes.

Dry hay and other fodder is in imminent danger of destruction by fire. The amount of loss by burning of barns when filled with fodder for winter use is enormous, and the distress to farmer and stock is severe and irreparable.

Will the club give expression to its views on this subject so important to agriculture?

The loss of feeding value in dry fodders, is of great moment when the entire hay, corn and other crops are taken into account, and the fact that these foods are enhanced in feeding value by preservation in silos, joins two factors of economy in the food supply of winter, for stock. And when it is remembered that rich fodder makes rich manure, and that manure is the salva-

tion of the perpetual fertility of the soil—the only guarantee of increasing production of large crops in the future.

Another item of saving by adopting the preserving of the hay crop in silo, is the saving in the enormous expense of building barns for storing dry fodder.

THE BALTIMORE PRESS BANQUET, at the Eutaw House, on the 12th of February, was a brilliant "feast of reason and flow of soul" which we enjoyed hugely. President Hayes, Senator Bayard and other distinguished guests delighted the assembly by eloquent and appropriate speeches. Several of our distinguished citizens, and also members of the Baltimore Press Association, did full justice to the occasion in poetry and prose, which added greatly to the pleasure and merriment which signalized this social gathering as one the happiest events that has occurred for a long time in our busy city.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMERS' SALES.—We call special attention of our readers to the advertisement of the Deer Creek Farmer's Club, of Harford county, Md., in this number of the *Maryland Farmer*, announcing an auction sale of blooded stock, farm implements, &c., on the Fair grounds, at Bel-Air, on the 30th of this month. Such co-operative sales at stated periods have been held with great success for years, in England. This is somewhat a new feature in our country, although we remember the first County Agricultural Society formed in this State—the Prince George's County Agricultural Association, held auction sales at the annual fairs for two years, but the scheme failed, because, at that day, there was a very limited supply of improved stock, &c., and the sales were unattractive. This movement of the Harford Farmer's Club is highly commendable, and we hope will meet the fullest success that it assuredly deserves.

It ought to be a great convenience to the farmers of the whole State, and we trust that the sale will be attended by a large number of farmers from all parts of the State. We have read the rules governing the sale, and think them admirable for the protection of the sellers and buyers. The club has no pecuniary interest in the enterprise.

Notices of New Advertisers.

WE call attention of sheep breeders especially, to the advertisement of Dr. Downey's Scotch Collies. We saw the performance of Tweed II, at Philadelphia, last September, and were astonished at the human-like intelligence and sagacity of that remarkable dog.

THOS. NORRIS & SON.—This old house have added another new plow to their extensive stock, and also continue the agency of many valuable implements. See their advertisement in this journal.

THE CONE PRESS CO.—Inform us that they have an extensive demand for their new presses, which give great satisfaction. A cut of the press will be seen in the advertisement columns of this number, which explains prices, &c., &c.

BALTIMORE LEATHER BELTING CO.—There is room in Baltimore for a very large business to be done in this line, and this new company, we have no doubt, will find ready sale for all the goods they can manufacture. See their advertisement in this journal.

N. B. and W. D. MERRYMAN & Co.—This firm succeeds the firm of Slifer, Merryman & Co., they are young men, brought up on the farm and therefore should be good judges of Farm Implements and Machinery, and no doubt will be able to make valuable selections for the farmer. For particulars, see advertisement in this journal.

ALEX. D. WATSON—has a large and general assortment of Paints, Glass, &c. We have found them a reliable house to deal with, and advise those in want of goods in this line to give them a call. See their advertisement in this journal.

EUTAW PAINT CO.—Manufacture enamel paints and keep a full stock in the paint line. For particulars, see the advertisement in this journal.

HUNDREDS of men, women and children rescued from beds of pain, sickness and almost death, and made strong and hearty by Parker's Ginger Tonic are the best evidences in the world of its sterling worth. You can find these in every community. *Post.* See advertisement.

LADIES who appreciate elegance and purity are using Parker's Hair Balsam. It is the best article sold for restoring gray hair to its original color and beauty.

DON'T GET THE CHILLS.—If you are subject to ague you must be sure to keep your liver, bowels and kidneys in good, free condition. When so, you will be safe from all attacks. The remedy to use is Kidney-Wort. It is the best preventive of all malarial diseases that you can take. See advertisement in this journal.

HABITUAL COSTIVENESS is the bane of every American woman. From it usually arises those disorders that so surely undermine their health and strength. Every woman owes it to herself and to her family, to use that celebrated medicine, Kidney-Wort. It is the sure remedy for constipation, and for all disorders of the kidneys and liver. Try it in liquid or dry form. Equally efficient in either form.—*Boston Sunday Budget.*